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Education is the one instrument which can transform this world. Education is also the great and indestructible wealth that one possesses.

Edappadi K. Palaniswami
- Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu

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- Hon'ble Chief Minister flags off 500 new buses for public use.. 12
- Hon'ble Chief Minister lays stone for Chennai's third desalination plant 18
- Investment Ambassadors across the globe to attract investments to Tamil Nadu 35
- 'Four pillars of democracy are functioning freely in the State'... 38
- Tamil Nadu Police show the way through Massive Blood Donation 50
- Hon'ble Chief Minister launches e-challan system to reduce traffic violations 64

First Wrapper

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** clarifying in the Legislative Assembly on 02.07.2019, that Tamil Nadu would continue to follow the principle of 69 per cent reservation in medical college admissions.

'Will follow 69 per cent reservation on medical seats at any cost'

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami's** clarification in the Assembly on 02.07.2019 over the continuance of 69 per cent reservation in medical degree courses in Tamil Nadu.

Hon'ble Speaker Sir,

All India Congress President has stated what the Congress election manifesto has mentioned. As far as we are concerned, the Central Government has given it. It is Government's duty to inform it to the Assembly. On that basis, we inform; there is nothing like expressing support or opposition. This Government will implement as per the consensus arrived at by political parties. The Union Government has sent a statement to all States, detailing the number of seats allotted through different schemes. Tamil Nadu too has received the statement. On that basis, our Hon'ble Health Minister has said the state has got 1,000 seats. Of these, 150 seats are earmarked for All India quota; of the remaining 850 seats, 264 are set apart for open competition; it is said, the balance 586 seats will come for application under 69 per cent reservation. He has stated that we can apply 69 per cent reservation for the 586 seats. This is what we have brought to the attention of the House. The Government will invite recognized political parties to consider the issue and act as per the consensus arrived at.

It is wrong on the part of Hon'ble Member Thiru.Ponmudi to say that we have endorsed this proposal. This is the Assembly and every word spoken here is recorded. Newspapers will carry it to the outside world. The Government has written a letter to the Union Government. The Hon'ble Health Minister has conveyed this to the House by way of keeping Assembly Members and Leaders of the Opposition Parties informed. Action on this proposal will be taken after inviting and sharing the contents of the letter with the leaders of all recognized parties and arriving at a consensus. Hence I wish to inform you through this House that Government will continue to adopt 69 per cent reservation at any cost.

Newly appointed medical officers exhorted to make service to people their motto

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami presented at a function held on 05.07.2019, appointment orders to 15 medical officers, to mark the distribution of such orders to 584 officers recruited by the Medical Services Recruitment Board. The function was held at the auditorium of the Tamil Nadu Government Multi-Super Specialty Hospital at the Omandurar Government Estate complex.

Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma inaugurated in January 2012 a medical services recruitment board exclusively for the Health Department, so that vacancies in Government Hospitals and posts created newly could be filled forthwith and medical services be provided without interruption to the poor. The Board has so far recruited 26,777 personnel including 12,815 doctors and 9,533 nurses.

The function for distribution of the appointment orders to 584 medical officers is in continuation of the one held on 04.03.2019 at the Institute of Obstetrics and Gynaecology and Government Hospital for Women and Children where appointment orders were distributed to 1,300 personnel out of the 1,884 selected.

Speaking at the function held at the Multi - Super Specialty Hospital, Hon'ble Chief Minister said: "Tamil Nadu is the best State in the whole of India in the medical field. For the last 3 years, we continue to occupy the premier position in organ transplantation. We have reduced the infant mortality rate and also the mortality rate of mothers in child birth. I am proud to say that these are the achievements of our doctors.''

Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma implemented many schemes for the State. With a mother's concern for the birth of healthy children, the Amma Child Care Kit scheme was implemented. The kit contained 14 types of articles which ensured the health of the child. The scheme benefited 17.98 lakh mothers. Likewise, the Amma Maternity Sanjeevi

Scheme was implemented to ensure the health of women during the maternity period. The scheme made available 11 types of herbs used in the Siddha system of medicine. Amma's schemes took care of the child from conception to birth and the idea was that a mother should give birth to healthy children.

Not only that. Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma raised the financial assistance given to pregnant women, first from Rs.6,000 to Rs.12,000 and later from Rs.12,000 to Rs.18,000. Under this scheme, Rs.5,300 crore was given to 56.28 lakh pregnant women.

On account of these schemes, we now see that children born to poor parents are growing up well.

The Chief Minister Comprehensive Medical Insurance Scheme is another such scheme. Through it, 36.60 lakh beneficiaries have got high class treatment costing Rs.6,046 crore. The insurance cover has also been raised from Rs.2 lakh to Rs.5 lakh. Many schemes that were started during Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma's rule continue to be implemented excellently. They include Amma Health Scheme, 'Amma Whole Body Scan Scheme' and Amma Women Special Whole Body Scan Scheme, distribution of sanitary napkins at no cost scheme, Mobile hospital, Prevention, Control and Treatment of Infectious diseases scheme, Breast Milk Bank scheme, establishment of super specialty hospitals like Accident Service Centre and assistance through specially earmarked phone No. '104' for information, consultation, complaints and help in respect of health care.

Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma had outlined the general aim of the Government as keeping Government hospitals clean and hygienic and ensuring selfless service by doctors and other health workers to people coming for treatment. Hence, I affectionately request all those who have received appointment orders to engage in your work with the aim of rendering service. I take leave of you, conveying my hearty greetings to the new appointees and my thanks to all the good people who have conducted this event in an excellent manner.

Foundation Stone laid for 13 units with investment of Rs.2,375 crore

Hon'ble Chief Minister launches operations of three concerns started through GIM 2019

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami at the Secretariat on 04.07.2019, inaugurated commercial operation of three organizations – EKKI Homa Pvt Ltd., Syma Technology Pvt Ltd., and Renaatus Procon Pvt Ltd., – started with a total investment of Rs.140 crore. Memoranda of Understanding had been signed on behalf of the Industries Department for starting these concerns during the Global Investors Meet held earlier this year.

On the same occasion, the Hon'ble Chief Minister laid the foundation stones for 10 units to be started with an investment of Rs.2,244.66 crore, as per the MoUs reached with them during the Global Investors Meet – 2019 and for other 3 units, which are to be set up at Cheyyaru, Ranipet and Bargur Industrial Estates, at a total investment of Rs. 130.34 crore.

Global Investors Meet – 2019 was organized on January 23 and January 24, 2019 in a grand manner under the leadership of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Thiru. Edapppadi K.Palaniswami. In this Investors meet, 304 MoUs were signed for a total investment of about Rs.3,00,431 crore to provide employment to 10.50 lakh people.

At Ganapathy in Coimbatore, a power pump manufacturing unit with an investment of Rs.15 crore, by the Coimbatore EKKI Group of Companies in a joint venture with EKKI Homa Private Ltd., Germany that will provide employment to 100 people;

An Electronic Spare parts manufacturing unit at MEPZ Industrial Estate, Thambaram, Kancheepuram District with an investment of Rs.75 crore by Syma Technology Pvt Ltd., offering employment to 3,000 people; and A construction materials manufacturing unit at SIPCOT Industrial Park at Gangaikondan in Tirunelveli District by Renaatus Procon Ltd., with an investment of Rs.50 crore providing employment to 250 people.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurated from the Secretariat, commercial production of the above three units, with a total investment of Rs.140 crore.

Hon'ble Chief Minister laid the foundation stone for 13 units, with a total investment of Rs.2,375 crore at the Secretariat on 04.07.2019. These units are: At Oragadam in Kancheepuram District a Windmill Wings and Special Composites manufacturing unit, with an investment of Rs. 730 crore, by an American firm TPI Composites, that will provide employment to 875 people;

A High-tech Carbon unit by Birla Group with an investment of Rs.500 crore, at SIPCOT Industrial Park at Gummidipoondi in Tiruvallur District offering employment to 300 people;

MSTC Recycling Pvt Ltd., a unit to convert used vehicles into environment friendly vehicles, with an investment of Rs.100 crore at Sunguvarchatram in Kancheepuram District that will generate employment for 300 people;

At the Indospace Private Industrial Estate in Tiruvallur District, Mahindra Steel Service Centre, with an investment of Rs.150 crore giving employment to 100 people;

At Pallipalayam in Namakkal District, Mothi Group of Companies is to set up Mothi Spinner Pvt Ltd., and Lucky Weavess India Pvt Ltd., with an investment of Rs.370 crore, providing employment to 1,300 people;

At Periyapalayam Village in Tiruvallur District, Kaleesuwari Refinery and Industry Pvt Ltd., of Kaleesuwari Group will set up a Bio-diesel unit with an investment of

Rs.150 crore, providing employment to 150 people;

SP Apparels Ltd., will set up spinning mills and readymade garment manufacturing units at Vazhapadi in Salem District, Gobichettipalayam in Erode District and Mettupalayam in Coimbatore District with a total investment of Rs.130 crore to generate employment to 1,625 people;

The Sakthi Steel Industries Ltd., will start its new unit at Irungattukottai in Kancheepuram District with an investment of Rs.37.66 crore, providing employment to 65 people;

Sun Estates will start vehicle spare parts integration unit, with an investment of Rs.47 crore at Samudrapedu Village in Sriperumbudur Division in Kancheepuram District that will have employment potential for 400 people;

Krishnaveni Carbon Products Pvt Ltd., will set up a unit at Chinnavedampatti in Coimbatore for manufacturing Carbon Seal and Bearings unit with an investment of Rs.30 crore that will give employment opportunities to 168 people;

In addition, new units will be set up in SIPCOT Industrial Parks in Cheyyaru, Ranipet and Bargur. In Cheyyaru in Tiruvannamalai District a vehicle steering manufacturing unit will be set up by Welbow Metals India Pvt Ltd., with an investment of Rs.80 crore, providing employment to 300 people;

A Heavy Vehicle Spare parts unit by Galvano Track Solutions Pvt Ltd., at a cost of Rs.40 crore in Ranipet in Vellore District offering jobs for 230 people; and A Paper manufacturing unit by Renganayagi Papers Pvt Ltd., with an investment of Rs.10.34 crore at Bargur in Krishnagiri District that will give employment to 141 people.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister laid the foundation stone for the above 13 units at the Secretariat on 04.07.2019.

Hon'ble Chief Minister hails Union Budget foreseeing great benefits for Tamil Nadu

Statement of Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami on 05.07.2019 on the Central Budget

I welcome the Central Government's Budget presented by the Union Finance Minister Tmt. Nirmala Sitharaman as it embodies new policies and many excellent schemes for the imminent progress of India.

The announcement that roads in the States will be developed further through the second phase of 'Bharat Mala' scheme will greatly benefit Tamil Nadu. I request the allotment of sufficient funds under this scheme to Tamil Nadu, whose road density is the highest in India. There is also the announcement that rural roads to a length of 1.25 lakh kilometers will be developed under the Prime Minister's Rural Road Scheme (PMGSY) at a cost of Rs.80,250 crore. Tamil Nadu could not get the full benefit of this scheme on account of the existence of well-laid roads in the earlier years. Since it is proposed now to provide road facilities to all rural markets, I hope Tamil Nadu gets the full benefits of this scheme under its third phase.

The Hon'ble Finance Minister has stated that schemes will be implemented to encourage new metro rail projects and improve train facility in suburban areas. I request the swift sanctioning of the second phase works of the Chennai Metro Rail Project, approval for Metro Rail Projects in Coimbatore and Madurai Municipal Corporation areas and further development of the Chennai Suburban Railway Services.

As for the announcement in the power sector of supplying electricity to heavy consumers and altering the tax structure on the open access sale of power by electricity producers and about the various subsidies, I request that they may be implemented after arriving at a consensus with the States, taking into account the fact that their present management is within States' regulations.

Jal Jeevan Mission for providing piped water to all rural households before 2024, and water resources development schemes like

re-charging, under Jal Sakthi Movement, 1,592 identified regions where ground water has been over exploited, will benefit the state greatly. These should be executed in co-ordination with state schemes. I also request allocation of sufficient funds for linking the rivers Godavari-Cauvery-Vaigai and Gundar in the on-going Budget session itself.

Announcements like allotment of Rs.350 crore towards 2 percent subsidy for loans obtained by small, micro and medium industries, concession to industries with an annual turnover of less than Rs.5 crore for paying service tax quarterly, monthly pension of Rs.3,000 to small traders, starting of industrial clusters for 100 new artisans will benefit Tamil Nadu. I welcome these proposals.

As for disinvestment announcement in public sector units for improving their efficiency, I wish to reiterate Hon'ble Amma's stand – that such measures should be taken only in select categories after consulting the State Governments concerned in view of the great role of PSUs in the socio-economic development of the States.

While welcoming the announcement on 'zero budget agriculture' for encouraging organic farming practices, I request that fund allocation for many Agriculture Development Schemes, implemented with Central Government's participation, be increased considerably.

We greatly welcome the schemes for further strengthening women's Self-Help Groups. Particularly, the overdraft facility up to Rs.5,000 to all members of SHGs and loan facility of Rs.One lakh to a member in each group will greatly help the groups in their business activities.

The statement that steps will be taken to encourage foreign direct investment in aviation, media, insurance and animation sectors is extremely welcome. I believe this will help Tamil Nadu's industrial growth further.

I welcome this Budget that has a visionary look for country's further development in all sectors.

I extend my hearty thanks and appreciation on behalf of the people of Tamil Nadu people for adding glory to Tamil language by quoting in the Budget a '*Pura naanooru*' poem written by *Pisirandhaiyaar*.

■

Hon'ble Chief Minister flags off 500 new buses for public use, costing Rs.158.72 crore

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami flagged off 500 new buses for public use on 04.07.2019, costing Rs.158.72 crore, on behalf of various Government Transport Corporations.

The Tamil Nadu Government, following the path of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, has been operating buses through 8 Transport corporations, benefiting nearly 1.74 crore passengers daily not only from Tamil Nadu, but also from neighbouring Pudhucherry, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Kerala. The Government has been introducing for the benefit of passengers, new buses, inaugurating new routes, opening new bus depots, constructing new office buildings and opening upgraded rest rooms for the convenience of employees. Advance online reservation for passengers and free bus pass for school students and for senior citizens in Chennai Metro are some of the welfare schemes that are being implemented by the Government.

In this way, to meet the transport needs of commuters, 100 buses for the Chennai Metropolitan Transport Corporation, 150 buses for the State Express Transport Corporation (Tamil Nadu), 10 buses for the Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation (Villupuram), 20 buses for the Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation (Salem), 30 buses for the Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation (Coimbatore), 110 buses for the Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation (Kumbakonam), 50 buses for the Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation (Madurai), and 30 buses for the Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation (Tirunelveli), totally 500 new buses at a total cost of Rs. 158.72 crore were put into operation. As a token of the introduction of 500 new buses, the Hon'ble Chief Minister flagged off 7 new buses from the Secretariat on 04.07.2019.

Union Environment Ministry 'must withdraw Mekedatu from agenda of expert panel'

Text of the D.O. letter dated 10.07.2019 of Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami,** addressed to Hon'ble Minister of Environment, Forests and Climate Change and Information and Broadcasting **Shri Prakash Javadekar**.

I have on 24.06.2019 written to the Hon'ble Prime Minister seeking his personal intervention to deny permission to the proposal of Cauvery Neeravari Nigama Niyamita for grant of Terms of Reference to obtain Environmental Clearance for Mekedatu Balancing Reservoir and Drinking Water Project.

However, it has been brought to my notice that the Expert Appraisal Committee for River Valley and Hydro electric Projects functioning under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has included the proposal of Karnataka for grant of fresh Terms of Reference to Mekedatu Balancing Reservoir and Drinking Water Project in its meeting scheduled to be held on 19.07.2019. The action of the Committee to include the proposal of Karnataka for discussion in the meeting is a violation of the Notified Final Order of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal and the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

The Government of Tamil Nadu has been conveying its strong objections and has been urging the Government of India to reject outright the proposal of Karnataka for its proposed Mekedatu Project, as it violates the Final Order of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal as modified by the Supreme Court. Further, Karnataka has not obtained the prior concurrence of the Government of Tamil Nadu and of other co-basin States. Cauvery basin being a deficit Basin, construction of Mekedatu or any project in any place by upper riparian State will drastically affect the lower riparian State in getting its due share of water. The Government of Tamil Nadu has filed an Interlocutory Application before the Supreme Court against the proposal of Karnataka for constructing a reservoir and also a Contempt Petition against all concerned and the matter is pending in the Supreme Court.

In the circumstances, I request you to instruct the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change to issue instructions to the Expert Appraisal Committee for River Valley and Hydro electric Projects to withdraw the subject of grant of fresh Terms of Reference to Karnataka for Mekedatu Balancing Reservoir and Drinking Water Project from the Agenda for the 25th meeting of the Committee to be held on 19.07.2019. The Committee may also be directed to desist from entertaining the proposal of Karnataka in future and the present proposal may be rejected and returned to Karnataka.

I look forward to your immediate reply in the matter.

Government maintaining water supply to people despite unprecedented drought

Hon'ble Chief Minister exposes Opposition's contradictions on charges against Government

Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** in Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on 01.07.2019, on the prevailing water scarcity and the steps taken to supply it in a regular manner (English Translation)

Hon'ble Speaker Sir,

I did not want to interfere in the Hon'ble Member's speech, but he continues to level (baseless) charges. I will quote a view expressed by the Congress party's President at a public meeting in Karnataka while campaigning in the just concluded Parliamentary election and I expect the Member to explain it. I raised it in many public meetings but there was no reply either from the Congress or the DMK. In his speech at a public meeting in Karnataka, the Congress party President had stated that the first work to be taken up after the Congress Party formed the Government at the Centre, was to construct a dam across Cauvery at Mekedatu and that the Cauvery Management Authority would be dissolved. Even now, we don't get water. When we faced a severe drought and requested release of 5 t.m.c. feet of water from our share in the Cauvery, Mr. Siddharamiah, who was Chief Minister of Karnataka then, did not respond despite my letter to him and my readiness to meet him in person. A coalition Government of your Party is ruling Karnataka

now. So you, who speak so much, (get) that quantum of water released; we can take it to Veeranam from Mettur and supply water here easily.

Not only that. As I have already mentioned, receipt of water already due to us has now become problematic. The Supreme Court has given a clear judgement. We got it from the court after a 50-year-long legal battle and many agitations, jointly conducted by our farmers and opposition parties. On the basis of that verdict, the Cauvery Management Authority was set up. Your party's All India President said, that Authority would be disbanded, the moment the Congress formed the Government at the Centre and added that Mekedatu dam would be constructed across the Cauvery, while speaking at an election meeting in Karnataka. Have you ever raised your voice (against it) so far? You are criticizing (this) Government so much. The Cauvery Management Authority has met twice and stressed the release of our share of water but the Karnataka Government has not released our monthly quota of water till now. Have you got any reply for that? But you find fault with (this) Government. You are a farmer. As far as this Government is concerned. Nature has failed us. Touch your conscience and tell me, is it refusing to release water though it has got water. No. It is not possible to supply water from somewhere (else in the State). The whole of Tamil Nadu is affected by drought today, a drought not seen for 40 to 50 years. No lake or water body has water.

The Leader of the Opposition has also mentioned that dams have poor storage and some have gone dry. That is true. Even in such a period, the AIADMK Government is supplying the needed water to people. During Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma's rule, we supplied 7,415 million litres of water per day (MLD); now we supply 7,508 MLD water. We cover all areas. You should think over this. During DMK's rule, it could supply only 4,945 mld water.

The rains have failed us; there is no water in the lakes and tanks anywhere; all of them have gone dry. The ground water table has gone down. This scarcity is due to higher consumption of drinking water as ground water has gone down and is not available to people for their day-to-day use. As far as this Government is concerned, I wish to inform the Leader of the Congress Legislature Party through You (Speaker), that we are supplying the same quantum of water that we were supplying earlier.

■

Disaster fighting equipment handed over to Tamil Nadu Disaster Rescue Force

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru.Edappadi K.Palaniswami handed over the 'Rotary (Circular) Rescue Saw with Diamond Tipped Blade', to the Additional DGP (Implementation), Thiru.Mahesh Kumar Agarwal I.P.S., at a function at the Secretariat in Chennai on 04.07.2019, as a token of handing over 137 numbers of this Disaster Management, Search and Rescue Equipment for the use of the Tamil Nadu Disaster Rescue Force, costing Rs.7 crore.

To mitigate hazards during disasters and to rush help to the disaster sites and save lives of people without loss of time, it is necessary to have an organization which has a fair knowledge of local landscape. Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami, while making a statement in the Assembly on 11.07.2017 under Rule 110, announced that a separate Police battalion in the name of Tamil Nadu Disaster Rescue Force would be formed in Tamil Nadu on the lines of the National Disaster Rescue Force and that it would strengthen the State-level Disaster Rescue Force for taking immediate action during times of disaster. The Hon'ble Chief Minister had added that the State-level Disaster Relief Fund will provide the necessary financial assistance for the purchase of communication gadgets and Rescue Equipment for the Tamil Nadu Disaster Rescue Force.

As a follow up measure, the 13th Battalion of Tamil Nadu Special Police in Poonamallee has been re-named as the Tamil Nadu Disaster Rescue Force. A Government Order was issued for the allotment of Rs.15 crore by the Revenue and Disaster Management Department to the Force for the purchase of the necessary

equipment, personal protective gear and to give training in disaster management.

As per the G.O. issued, the Hon'ble Chief Minister handed over 137 numbers of 'Rotary (Circular) Rescue Saw with Diamond Tipped Blade' equipment for the use of Tamil Nadu State Disaster Rescue Force. The equipment includes Inflatable Fibre Boat, Bullet Carbide-tipped Chain Saw, Diamond Chair Saw, Concrete Hammer Drill, Breathing apparatus and cylinder, Multi-function Tower Light Generator, Life Saving Buoys and Jackets, Air lifting bags and Gas cutters.

Solatium to families of drowned kids

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu ***Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami's*** *statement in the Tamil Nadu Assembly on 09.07.2019, on Colachel MLA Thiru. J.G.Prince's demand for relief to families of children who drowned in the sea (English Translation)*

Hon'ble Speaker Sir,

I am sorry and deeply hurt to hear that three children – Selvan Sahaya Rekhin, son of Sahaya Rajan, Selvan Infanter Rakhit, son of Stanter and Selvan Sachin, son of Michael Nayagam – were drowned in the sea while playing on the seashore on 16.06.2019. The body of Sachin was washed ashore on 16.06.2016, of Sahaya Rekhin on 17.06.2019 and of Infanter Rakhit on 18.06.2019.

I express my heartfelt condolences to the families of the drowned children. On behalf of the Government, I would like to inform the Hon'ble Member through the Hon'ble Speaker, that the families of the deceased children will be given Rs.1 lakh each from the Chief Minister's Public Relief Fund.

Hon'ble Chief Minister lays Foundation for Chennai's third desalination plant

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami laid the foundation on 27.06.2019 for a desalination plant, costing Rs.1,259.38 crore, at Nemmeli on the East Coast Road, Kancheepuram District. The plant to be operated by the Department of Municipal Administration and Water Supply, will have a capacity of converting 15 crore litres of sea water into potable water a day.

The water supply to Chennai citizens is affected when monsoon fails, depriving the reservoirs of their usual flow. With a farsighted approach, Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma announced the setting up of desalination plants in the DBOOT mode (design, build, own, operate and transfer) for meeting the drinking water needs of the growing Chennai Metro. Accordingly, a desalination plant with a capacity to purify 10 crore litres of sea water

a day was set up at Minjur on 25.07.2010 and it is under operation. The plant benefits about 10 lakh people residing in Manali, Madhavaram, Ennore, Kathivakkam, Tiruvottiyur, Tondiarpet and Vyasarpadi in North Chennai.

Following this, another desalination station with a capacity of purifying 10 crore litres sea water was set up at Nemmeli and was inaugurated by Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma on 22.02.2013. The plant is catering to about 9 lakh people, residing in Sholinganallur, Neelankarai, Injambakkam, Kaarapakkam, Chemmancheri, Thuraipakkam, Perungudi, Kottivakkam, Palavakkam, Thiruvanmiyur, Velacheri, Taramani, Pallipattu, Adyar, Besant Nagar, Nandanam, M.R.C.Nagar, Raja Annamalaipuram and Mylapore.

On 16.04.2013, Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma made an announcement in the Assembly under Rule 110 that yet another desalination plant with a capacity of purifying 15 crore litre sea water per day would be set up in the 10.50 acre vacant plot adjacent to the present Nemmeli plant to meet the increasing water needs of Chennai, whose population is ever growing.

In accordance with that announcement, Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami laid the foundation stone on 27.06.2019 for setting up a desalination plant at Nemmeli with a capacity of desalinating 15 crore litres of sea water every day.

The plant cost of Rs.1,259.38 crore will be met partly by raising a loan of Rs.700 crore from the German financial company KfW. The balance will be subsidy under the AMRUT scheme. The plant will come into operation before December 2021. About 9 lakh people in Velacheri, Alandur, St.Thomas Mount, Medavakkam, Kovilambakkam, Nanmangalam, Keezhkattalai, Moovarasampettai, Sholinganallur, Ullagaram, Puzhuthivakkam, Madipakkam and the IT companies on the Rajiv Gandhi Road will benefit once the plant goes into operation.

Joint efforts sought to stop Salem Steel Plant privatisation

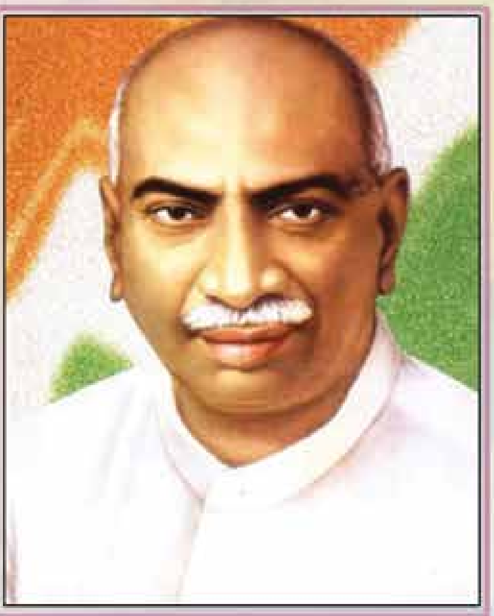
Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami's** clarification in the Assembly on 05.07.2019 on the Salem Steel Plant.

(English Translation)

Hon'ble Speaker Sir,

Even two years back, an attempt was made to privatize the Salem Steel Plant. That was stopped by Hon'ble Amma's Government. In many ways they tried. All those attempts were defeated. Now, Hon'ble Leader of the Opposition has mentioned about it. The media also has published news items. It has reported that a tender has been floated for handing over the plant to private parties. As you have stated, in the first phase, let your and our Members of Parliament meet the Hon'ble Prime Minister and the Union Government Minister concerned and urge them to drop the proposal; let all the Parliament Members belonging to AIADMK, DMK and the Congress parties pressure them, presenting a petition and stressing that it is an important scheme, a premier scheme and as it is a public sector plant, a wrong message will go to the people if such units are privatized one after another. Let us also raise the issue in both Houses of Parliament. I wish to inform the Hon'ble Leader of the Opposition, through You (Speaker) that our Government and our AIADMK party will give full co-operation to any constructive plan to stop the move.

The life and times of Perunthalaivar Kamarajar



Perunthalaivar Kamarajar is remembered with respect and awe in Tamil Nadu. There are many legends and anecdotes that illustrate his honesty, simplicity, resourcefulness, decisiveness and administrative skills. But it is not necessary to depend on anecdotes and legends to asses Kamarajar's legacy. There is enough factual material and his own recorded actions to judge this extraordinary man.

In the Indian freedom struggle, a volunteer's commitment to the nationalist cause could be determined by his willingness to sacrifice. The length and number of jail terms indicated how potent and dangerous the British Government thought Kamarajar to be. By this measure, he ranks among the most committed and effective freedom fighters from Tamil Nadu. He was jailed four times - twice in the 1930s and twice in the 1940s. He plunged into the Independence movement as a teenager and spent his teens and twenties participating in various agitations which helped him develop his organisational skills and advanced through the Congress ranks. He was a natural in electioneering too. He could tirelessly tour the countryside seeking support for the Swaraj Party candidates. His commitment to the cause was so deep that he shunned marriage and resisted his family's attempts to make him settle down. He remained single throughout his life, living only for his principles and responsibilities. Unlike many of his fellow Independence activist he was not yet part-time freedom fighter he was a full time volunteer who lived for the cause.

He was not willing to take up administrative posts as long as complete Independence was not achieved. His heart lay with the freedom struggle and he wanted no distractions. When the time came to switch from opposing the Government to being the Government, he made the transition smoothly.

Kamarajar was a rare breed of politician- a vicious adversary but a gracious Victor. He understood that for a party to grow it needed

to be closer to the common people. Throughout his career he traveled extensively in Tamil Nadu and visited every corner of the State.

Kamarajar possessed a great deal of common sense. That coupled with good judgement and the ability to delegate made him an administrator par excellence.

Kamarajar was a pragmatist. His approach to economic policies was one of flexibility-if an idea worked and benefited the people, he would adopt it.

During the Legislative Assembly debates, only relevant Ministers would reply to the Opposition's questions. Kamarajar did not intervene unless specifically called for.

Kamarajar never allowed any law, rule or regulation to stand in the way of the right thing.

He was able to get the necessary co-operation from the State bureaucracy because he carefully groomed talented administrators. Because of his long reign as Chief Minister he could plant good men in the administration and nurture their careers. And he listened to his bureaucrats more than he listen to his party men. If they had good points to make, he took note of them - often his schemes got better because he encouraged dissent. For instance, his flagship noon-meal scheme first evoked serious resistance from the bureaucracy. They raised several valid points about why the scheme wouldn't work. Kamarajar patiently listened to their points, modified the plan and finally arrived at a scheme which took care of all their objections. This famous '*agattum parkkalam*' (let's see how to get this done) approach became the hallmark of his administration. The most important reason for Kamarajar's success was his genuine concern for the poor. He himself came from poor background and never forgot what the poor needed. He always kept in touch with the ordinary people of the state by constantly touring the countryside. He was scrupulously honest. He refused to use his official position to help even his close relatives. This honesty and integrity gave him the moral authority to bend others to his will.

The most important part of Kamarajar's legacy is not his education reforms, industrialisation, efficient administration or his political impact. His value lies in the fact that he can be (and is) used as an example of an honest and efficient politician for inspiring today's generation.

He suffered a massive heart attack and died on 2 October 1975. An era in the history of modern Tamil Nadu had ended.

Source:

Kamaraj - The Life and Times of K. Kamaraj

Bala Jeyaraman

Has the nation ever seen such a man?
He who cared for his Country more than his home,
He who worked for his Country every day of his life,
He who fed the children and gave them education,
He who sent cattle herders to school,
He who was strong yet humble,
He was our Black Gandhi with a pure white heart.
Has the nation ever seen such a man

-A Song from the 2004 film **Kamarajar**
A Film on the Kingmaker

Conserve every drop of rain water

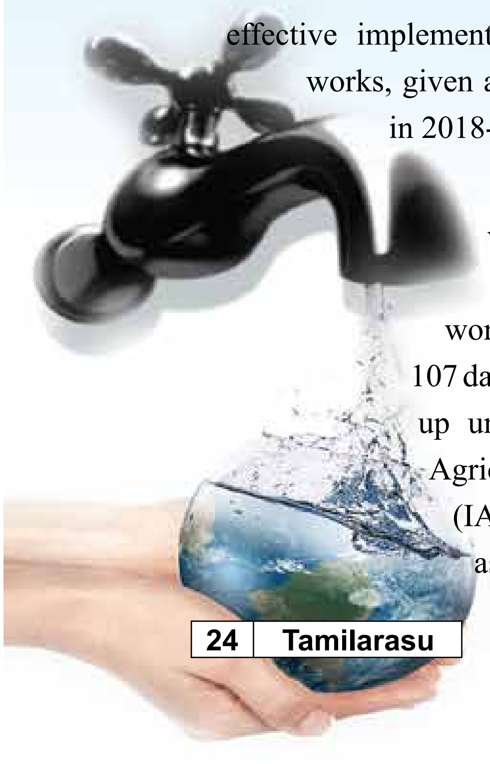
Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** at the Secretariat on 26.06.2019, inaugurating the Public Works Department's review meeting *(English Translation)*

This meeting has been called to review the schemes implemented in the year 2018-2019. The PWD is a premier Department. Even during the days of Hon'ble Idhaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, more funds were allotted to this Department for the purpose of conserving every drop of rain water during monsoon periods through construction of check dams and dredging of lakes and tanks through the 'kudimaramathu' scheme. This scheme envisages total involvement of farmers through formation of

farmer teams and allotting works to them. In the year 2017-2018, 1,511 lakes were taken up on an experimental basis and 1,311 of them have been dredged. The Government is taking steps to dredge the remaining ones too. We have issued clear instructions to District Collectors how to go about the implementation of the scheme when voluntary organizations, general public and private institutions come forward to desilt lakes and tanks. The Government is ready to permit dredging works. These works can be taken up after getting approval from the Tahsildars and Village Administrative Officers concerned.

I request you to review the present status of construction/renovation/maintenance works of dams, check dams, canals, lakes, tanks and structures for artificial rejuvenation of ground water, put up in 2018-2019 and earlier years and take up works to improve quality and speed of implementation.

Speedy execution of the remaining 200 works under the 'kudimaramathu' scheme, out of the 1,511 works approved in 29 Districts in 2017-2018 and taking up for speedy and effective implementation of 1,829 such works, given approval in 31 Districts in 2018-2019, has been urged.



This Government will take steps to review the ongoing renovation works in 1,325 lakes and 107 dams in 22 Districts, taken up under the Irrigation for Agriculture Modernisation (IAM) with World Bank assistance and expedite the cost evaluation work for renovation of 906 lakes and 183 dams in 18 Districts in the current year under the second phase, for giving quick approval.

During Puratchi Thalaivi Amma's reign itself, an announcement was made for a barrage with new head-sluices across Coleroon river for Aadhanur-Kumaramangalam Villages in Cuddalore-Nagapattinam Districts. The project has been delayed on account of difficulties in land acquisition. To expedite the project, Amma's Government has drawn up a Rs.428 crore scheme and work on it, has started. Likewise, tenders have been floated for construction of a barrage at Mukkombu and work has started on an estimate of Rs.387 crore.

During the debate in the Assembly on demands for grants for the PWD, it was announced that check dams would be constructed across rivers and Odais at different places at a cost of Rs.1,000 crore. In accordance with that announcement, 56 works were started and 17 completed. In the remaining 39 sites works are in progress. The Government has given permission to farmers to clear the dredged silt at the rate of 25 tractor loads per acre for wet land and 30 tractor loads for an acre of dry land. Potters can take away 10 to 20 tractor loads of silt after getting permission from the Tahsildar.

The Athikadavu-Avinashi scheme was mooted in Idhaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma's rule itself. By way of fulfilling the 50-year demand of farmers, a tender has been notified today for a Rs.1,652 crore scheme and the foundation stone has been laid for commencing works on it.

To quench the drinking water needs of Chennai Metro, Hon'ble Idhaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma brought water from Veeranam lake through pipes and notched an achievement. As a further measure to solve this water problem, a new reservoir is being constructed at Kannan Kottai Thervoy Kandigai and 95 per cent works have been completed. The remaing 5 per cent works will be completed in two months and the Government will take appropriate steps to store water in the coming monsoon periods and supply water to people uninterruptedly.

Under the scheme for linking of rivers in Tamil Nadu, works are in progress to link Pennaiyaru (Sathanur dam) with Cheyyaru, Pennaiyaru (Nedunkal dam) with Paalaru, Cauvery (Mettur dam) with Sarabanga, Thirumanimutharu and Ayyaru rivers, Cauvery with Agniyaru, South Vellaru, Manimutharu, Vaigai and Gundaru, and Thamiraparani with Karumeniyaru and Nambiyaru. I wish to inform that Amma's Government is taking steps to expedite and complete these works.

We are taking several steps in respect of water management. In this regard, Chief Engineers and Superintending Engineers are deputed to inspect and study areas where monsoon rain water wastefully drains into the sea, so that check dams can be constructed in those places for supplying water to people regularly.

The Godavari-Cauvery linking project is this Government's visionary project. When this scheme is implemented, the Tamil Nadu Government will continue to press the Centre to meet the total water needs of delta farmers. Recently, when I met the Prime Minister and congratulated him, I clearly requested him to implement the Godavari-Cauvery river linking scheme. I stressed this once again when I met the Hon'ble Water Resources Minister of the Union Government.

Many schemes have been announced in connection with the scheme of cleaning the Ganga. Likewise, to clean the Cauvery river also, I requested the Prime Minister to implement a scheme under the name "Nadandhaai Vaazhi Cauvery". This has resulted in the Prime Minister including in the Hon'ble President's speech to Parliament, the good news that Centre will take steps to purify the Cauvery river.

Idhaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma took up the Rain Water Harvesting scheme as a marvellous scheme, stressed its importance to the people and said it should be implemented in a holistic way. I seek the co-operation of people in this matter and wish to State that Amma's Government will continue the scheme and encourage its implementation by creating awareness.

I request that all the schemes taken up by the PWD should be completed in time and brought to the use of people.

Hon'ble Chief Minister opens hospital buildings costing Rs.30.03 crore

New Maternity and Child Care building for Cuddalore District hospital

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami declared open at the Secretariat on 24.06.2019 through video conferencing, Maternity and Special Treatment Centre for Child Care building at the Cuddalore District Headquarters Hospital, Cuddalore District at a cost Rs.18 crore. He also declared open hospital buildings of the Department of Health and Family Welfare, constructed at a cost of Rs.12.03 crore.

With the lofty aim of making available uninterrupted high class medical facilities to the poor, the Tamil Nadu Government that works on the lines of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, is implementing many pioneering schemes like strengthening infrastructure facilities in Government Medical College Hospitals, Government District Headquarters Hospitals and Taluk Hospitals, installing modern medical equipment, setting up new Primary Health Centres, exploring ways and means to provide quality medical facilities to people residing in areas not easily accessible and exploiting the technological growth in the medical field to give high-end medical facilities.

In this regard, the maternity and special treatment centre for child care building at Cuddalore was opened. Other buildings declared open were: District Early Intervention Centre at Thoothukudi Government Medical College Hospital at a cost of Rs.1 crore, a men and women ward with a bed strength of 58, a Post-Operative Care Ward, a Maternity and Children Ward at Kinathukadavu Government Hospital, Coimbatore at a cost of Rs.1.30 crore, a men and women ward with a bed strength of 54, Post-Operative Care Ward, Maternity Ward, Post-Delivery Care Ward, Emergency

Ward, Ophthalmology Ward, Children's Ward and an operation theatre at Vembakkam Government Hospital, Tiruvannamalai District at a cost of Rs.1.21 crore, a men and women ward with 60 beds, Post-Operative Care Ward, Maternity Ward, Post Delivery Care Ward and an operation theatre at Athur Government Hospital, Dindigul District at a cost of Rs.1.30 crore; Public Health and Preventive Medicine Department's buildings for 3 upgraded Primary Health Centres at Kayamozhi and Pudukottai in Thoothukudi District and at Kommanandal in Tiruvannamalai District at a cost of Rs.3.60 crore, building for Hanumantheertham Primary Health Centre, Krishnagiri District at a cost of Rs.62 lakh and out-patient ward buildings in Primary Health Centres-Kozhappalur (Tiruvannamalai District), Iluppaikudikaadu (Perambalur), Vasudevanallur (Tirunelveli), Kanai (Villupuram) and M. Reddyapatti (Virudhunagar) at a cost of Rs.3 crore. Totally, hospital buildings constructed at a cost of Rs.30.03 crore were declared open.

From this year, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India is releasing its assessment of the performance of States and Union Territories in respect of food safety. The evaluation is done against 5 criteria – human resource and institutional information, compliance, food testing infrastructure and surveillance, training and capacity building and consumer empowerment. Every year, on World Food Safety Day, evaluation report is released and awards are presented. Tamil Nadu is one of the 7 States selected for the award this year. Hon'ble Minister for Health Dr. C. Vijayabaskar who received the award presented to Tamil Nadu, showed it to the Hon'ble Chief Minister and received his blessings.

Government colleges across the State get infrastructure facilities

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami declared open through video conferencing at the Secretariat on 24.06.2019, buildings costing totally Rs.185.70 crore, to boost the infrastructure facilities in Government Colleges across the State.

With the lofty aim of making Tamil Nadu excel in science and technological education and helping village students to come up in life through higher education, the Tamil Nadu Government, that functions on the lines of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, started in the last 8 years, 56 Government Arts and Science Colleges/University Constituent Arts and Science Colleges, 4 Government Engineering Colleges and 19 Polytechnic Colleges at different places so that rural students can take up higher education near their places of residence without the necessity of going to cities. This has made Tamil Nadu a premier State in admissions to higher education with an enrolment percentage of 48.6.

The buildings declared open are: 24 Class Rooms, 4 Laboratories, Library, Seminar Hall and Administrative building (Rs.9,32,50,000) in Bharat Ratna Puratchi Thalaivar Dr.M.G.R. Government Arts and Science College in Palacode, Dharmapuri District; 35 additional Class Rooms and 8 Laboratories in Government Arts College for Men and Government Arts Colleges for Women in Krishnagiri (Rs.4.37 crore), Government Arts and Science College for women in Bargur (Rs.2.27 crore);

8 additional Class Rooms and 2 Laboratories in Thiru. A.Govindasamy Government Arts College, Dindivanam, Villupuram District (Rs.2.06 crore); 14 additional Class Rooms and Toilets at the Tiruvalluvar University Constituent Arts and Science College, Nariyaneri, Vellore District (Rs.2.30 crore); renovated and newly constructed Class Rooms, Library, Toilets and an approach road with drainage facility at Government Arts College, Tiruvannamalai (Rs.1.40 crore); 45 additional Class Rooms and 10 Laboratories at Education Science Development Institute, Saidapet (Rs.2.18 crore), at Dr. Ambedkar Government Arts College, Vyasarpadi (Rs.9 crore) and at Bharathi Women's College, George Town (Rs.3 crore) and a Men's Hostel with 90 rooms to accommodate 360 students at Presidency College, Chepauk (all in Chennai) at a cost of Rs.10 crore; hostels, workshop and other buildings (Rs.10.69 crore) at Government Polytechnic College, Perundurai, Erode District; hostel buildings with a training centre, 48 LIG flats and a hall for consultative meetings (Rs.15.50 crore) at Government Engineering College, Coimbatore and 14 Class Rooms, 4 laboratories, seminar hall, administrative block and other buildings (Rs.7,97,50,000) at Government Arts and Science College, Mettupalayam; centralised instrumentation facilities, swimming pool, science laboratory and a common dining hall for women's hostels (Rs.17 crore) at Bharathiyar University, Coimbatore; classrooms, laboratories, administrative block and other buildings (Rs.7.98 crore) at Government Arts and Science College, Avinasi, Thiruppur District, 8 Class Rooms, 2 Laboratories and toilets (Rs.2.07 crore) at Chikkanna Government Arts College, Tiruppur; 30 additional Class Rooms and 6 laboratories (Rs.6.17 crore) at Thiru.Vi.Ka. Government Arts College, Tiruvarur; 33 additional class rooms, 5 laboratories and toilets at Government Arts College for Women, Kumbakonam (Rs.3.10 crore), at Government Arts College, Kumbakonam (Rs.3.10 crore) and at Government Education Science College, Orathanadu (Rs.70 lakh) - all in Thanjavur District; 27 additional class rooms, 3 laboratories and toilets at Government Arts College, Chidambaram in Cuddalore District (Rs.3.20 crore) and at Periyar Government Arts College, Cuddalore (Rs.2.40 crore); 40 additional class rooms and 10 laboratories at Arignar Anna Government Arts College, Namakkal (Rs.4.86 crore), Namakkal Kavignar Ramalingam Pillai Government Arts College for Women, Namakkal (Rs.3.89 crore) and at Government Education Science College, Kumarapalayam (Rs.1.06 crore); 30 additional Class Rooms and 5 laboratories at Periyar E.V.R. College, Tiruchirapalli (Rs.4.37 crore) and at Arignar Anna Government Arts College, Musiri (Rs.2.35 crore); a Men's Hostel and centralised instrumentation laboratory (Rs.6.30 crore) at Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirapalli; 26 additional Class Rooms and 6 laboratories at Government Arts College, Kulithalai, Karur

District (Rs.3.56 crore) and at Government Arts College, Karur (Rs.2.65 crore); 30 additional Class Rooms and 6 laboratories at M.V.Muthiah Government Arts College for Women, Dindigul (Rs.4.60 crore) and at Government Arts College for Women at Nilakottai (Rs.2.20 crore); 25 additional Class Rooms, 8 laboratories and toilets at Sri.Meenakshi Government Arts College for Women, Madurai (Rs.4 crore) and at Government Arts College, Melur (Rs.2.60 crore); 43 additional Class Rooms and 6 laboratories at Raja Duraisingam Government Arts College, Sivagangai (Rs.3 crore), at Government Arts College for women, Sivagangai (Rs.2.74 crore), at Va.Se.Siva Government Arts College, Poolankurichi (Rs.2.37 crore) and at Alagappa Government Arts College, Karaikudi (Rs.1.24 crore), additional hostel buildings for post graduate women at Alagappa University Complex, Karaikudi (Rs.1.41 crore); 16 additional Class Rooms and 2 laboratories at Sethupathi Government Arts College, Ramanathapuram (Rs.4 crore) and a workshop (Rs.89 lakh) at Srinivasa Subbaraya Polytechnic College, Puthur, Nagapattinam District.

NEWS IN PICTURE

In connection with the Birth Anniversary of Rettaimalai Seenivasan on 07.07.2019, Hon'ble Ministers Thiru. D.Jayakumar (Fisheries, Personnel and Administrative Reforms), Dr. V.Saroja (Social Welfare and Nutritious Meals Scheme), Thiru. P. Benjamin (Rural Industries), Additional Director (Public Relations) Thiru. Ula. Ravindran, Joint Director (Memorials) Thiru.D.Saravanan, of the Department of Information and Public Relations and High Officials of the Government paid floral tributes to the portrait of the leader in the Gandhi Mandapam complex, Guindy, Chennai.

Poll schedule for Vellore Parliamentary seat

The Election Commission of India has announced the poll schedule for the General Election to 8.Vellore Parliamentary Constituency as follows:-

Filing of Nominations and issue of Notification	11.07.2019 (Thursday)
Last Date for filing Nominations	18.07.2019 (Thursday)
Date for Scrutiny of applications	19.07.2019 (Thursday)
Last date of withdrawal of candidatures	22.07.2019 (Monday)
Date of Poll	05.08.2019 (Monday)
Date for Counting	09.08.2019 (Friday)
Date before which election shall be completed	11.08.2019 (Sunday)

The Model Code of Conduct has come into force with effect from the date of announcement of the poll schedule, i.e. 04.07.2019. The Model Code of Conduct shall come into force with immediate effect in the entire Vellore District. The Model Code of Conduct shall be applicable to all candidates, political parties, State and Union Government.

Rs.25 crore modern rice mill for Peravurani

Statement of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami** in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on 05.07.2019 under Rule 110. *(English Translation)*

FOOD AND CONSUMER PROTECTION DEPARTMENT

Hon'ble Speaker Sir ,

1. In the interest of farmers, it has become necessary to set up more modern rice mills to hull the paddy procured by the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation. Hence, a modern rice mill with a capacity of 100 metric tonnes and with modern technology and machinery will be set up in the current year at Peravurani, Thanjavur District, at a cost of about Rs.25 crore.

2. To increase the storage capacity of the Civil Supplies Corporation's godowns and in consideration of future requirements, 128 more godowns with a capacity of 36,000 metric tonnes will be set up at different places at a cost of Rs.59.40 crore in the current year.

3. Replacement of asbestos roof (AC Sheet roof) of 55 godowns of the Civil Supplies Corporation with modern, painted, rust-proof roofs that are very secure will be undertaken in the current financial year at a cost of Rs.21.65 crore.

4. The old damaged roads in the complexes of Civil Supplies Corporation's godowns will be replaced with durable, rain-proof new concrete roads in the current year at a cost of Rs.54.44 crore.

5. A solar- powered refrigerated warehouse with a capacity of 1,000 metric tonnes will be set up at a cost of Rs.3.75 crore by the Tamil Nadu Warehousing Corporation in the current financial year in Palacode Taluk, Dharmapuri District for storage of vegetables, tamarind, fruits, pulses, flowers and other agricultural products in a safe manner.

CO-OPERATION DEPARTMENT

Hon'ble Speaker Sir,

1. Own buildings will be constructed for 125 co-operative institutions at a cost of Rs.36.41 crore for providing the best service to customers with improved infrastructure facilities. The institutions covered are 113 Primary Agricultural Co-operative Credit Societies, 7 Central Co-operative Bank branches, 2 Employees Co-operative Credit and Thrift Societies, 2 Urban Co-operative Banks and one Urban Co-operative Credit Society.

2. One hundred and forty-four Co-operative institutions will be modernized at a cost of Rs.24.91 crores for serving customers with modern facilities and with a new vigour. The institutions are 118 Primary Agricultural Co-operative Credit Societies, 17 Central Co-operative Banks, 4 Urban Co-operative Banks, 3 Urban Co-operative Credit Societies and 2 Primary Co-operative Agriculture and Rural Development Banks.

3. The Chennai Central Co-operative Bank's Headquarters building will be modernized with improved infrastructure facilities at a cost of Rs.8.88 crore for providing excellent service to customers.

4. To provide quality consumer goods at fair price and other warehousing services to the general public and consumers, 5 District Consumer Co-operative Wholesale Warehouses will be started in Ariyalur, Pudhukkottai, Theni, Kanniyakumari and Krishnagiri.

5. As a new initiative and by way of benefiting the PDS cardholders, Amma Mini Co-operative Supermarkets were opened in

103 fair price shops across the State and they became popular as they sold 300 varieties of articles that met the day-to-day needs of people, at a price 5 per cent less than the maximum retail price. The scheme will be extended and 582 such shops will be newly opened at a cost of Rs.5.82 crore.

6. Keeping in view farmers' needs, 165 godowns with a total capacity of 36,500 metric tonnes will be constructed in the current year at a cost of Rs.39.37 crore in the 142 Primary Agricultural Co-operative Credit Societies and 12 Agricultural Producers Co-operative Marketing Societies. The break up is 135 godowns with 100 metric tonne capacity, 20 with 500 metric tonne capacity, 7 with 1,000 metric tonne capacity and 3 with 2,000 metric tonne capacity.

FOREST DEPARTMENT

Hon'ble Speaker Sir,

1. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change of the Union Government and the Forest Survey of India have stressed the geo-referencing of forest lands in maps. Hence, scheme works for delineating the

entire forest area under the Forest Department with differential global positioning system will be undertaken at a cost of Rs.50 crore and completed in 3 years. In the first phase, works costing Rs.31crore will be taken up in 2019-2020.

2. Tree saplings, raised in Forest Extension Centres are supplied to local people. For raising nurseries as per needs for strengthening the Extension Centres, to acquaint farmers with modern technology-based marketing strategies arrived at in seminars, held in co-ordination with industrialists, academics, nature enthusiasts and farmers, 8 forest extension centres in operation at Coimbatore, Namakkal, Karur, Thanjavur, Kancheepuram, Dharmapuri, Virudhunagar and Chennai will be modernized and strengthened at a cost of Rs.2.4 crore.

3.Tiger sanctuaries provide rare opportunities for tourists to see the flora and fauna of forests, climb mountains and enjoy the natural beauty of forests. To help know more about the forest animals and the utilities of forests, 3 sight and sound mini auditoriums for educational and information purposes will be set up in the current year at a cost of Rs.9 crore at Kalakad - Mundanthurai, Aanaimalai and Sathyamangalam Tiger sanctuaries at the rate of Rs.3 crore for each.

4. It is proposed to expend Rs. 200 crore in the coming years for the development of forest roads. I am happy to inform that in the current year, maintenance works, costing Rs.57.50 crore will be undertaken for developing 577 km long forest roads.

5. There are 1,119 anti-poaching forest watchers in the Forest Department. Mostly, they belong to the hill tribes as they live in deep forest areas. As the tribals know the interior parts of forest well, they are engaged in the prevention of theft of forest trees, poaching and the infiltration of naxalites. They play a big role in the protection of forest wealth and forest animals. As they work amidst great difficulties, I am happy to announce that their consolidated monthly pay will be raised from Rs.10,000 to Rs.12,500.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT:

Hon'ble Speaker Sir,

On the orders of Hon'ble Amma, the Chetpet lake in Chennai, the Avadi Paruthippattu lake and the lakes in Madhavaram, Ambattur and Korattur were restored in the past years for improving the environment in Chennai Metro and the surrounding areas. Now, it is proposed to restore the Chitlapakkam lake in Tambaram Taluk, Kancheepuram District in deference to the demands of the people there and social activists.

Chitlapakkam lake has an ayacut of 219 acres. But, it has been damaged now. For restoring this lake, I am happy to inform that works will be taken up at a cost of Rs.25 crore. The works will include eviction of encroachers, restoring storage capacity to maximum level by the removal of sand mounds, strengthening bunds, averting wastage of surplus water, restoring surplus water walls, diverting flood waters through drainage canals and diverting sewage water to sewage treatment plants by installing shutters.

Investment Ambassadors across the globe to attract investments to Tamil Nadu

Statement of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami**, in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on 12.07.2019 under Rule 110 *(English Translation).*

INDUSTRIES DEPARTMENT

Hon'ble Speaker Sir,

1. We will network with Tamil people living abroad and with Tamil Sangams and Industrial organizations and have Investment Ambassadors across the world to create awareness about investing in Tamil Nadu, and to get their advice on attracting investments to the State. For this a special division, called *'Yadhum Oorey'* and a website will be created at a cost of Rs.60 lakh.

2. To provide adequate guidance to foreign investors coming forward to invest in Tamil Nadu and to identify potential investors through experts, separate special networks will be set up in Japan, South Korea, the US, China, Taiwan, France, Israel and Germany. In Tamil Nadu House in Delhi, a new division of the Guidance Bureau will be created. With a new brand name, *'Thozhil Valar Tamilagam'*, new techniques will be used and through conferences, seminars, internet-based promotions and advertisements, information exchange will be organized both within the Country and abroad at a cost of Rs.10 crore.

3. A website will be created at a cost of Rs.1 crore, to connect private land-owners who are ready to offer 20 or more acres of land for setting up industrial units with potential investors willing to start industrial units here.

4. 'Biz Buddy', an integrated web mechanism will be set up at a cost of Rs.50 lakh, to address the complaints of industrial houses and ensure that their complaints are addressed within a period of 4 weeks at the maximum.

5. SIPCOT in Thoothukudi District will set up a 60 million litre capacity sea water desalination plant at Mullakadu Village in the District with a project cost of Rs.634 crore, to meet the water requirements of industrial units in and around the District.

6. For starting industrial units immediately by improving infrastructure facilities for exports, Industrial sheds with 'Plug and Play Facility' will be set up in SIPCOT Industrial Parks in Vallam-Vadakal in Kancheepuram District and in Perundurai in Erode District, at an estimated cost of Rs.50 crore.

7. To provide housing facility for employees of industrial units in SIPCOT Industrial Parks, in the current year houses will be constructed at a cost Rs.50 crore in Vallam-Vadakal and Ranipet SIPCOT Complexes in the current year.

8. A Business Facilitation Centre with seminar halls and training centres will be constructed on a 50,000 sq.ft. area at a cost of Rs.40 crore at SIPCOT Information Technology Park, Siruseri, for the benefit of industrial units and exporters.

9. To enable all Districts to become industrial hubs, SIPCOT will sign joint ventures with private persons who own 100 acres or more of land for setting up industrial parks. For these industrial parks, concessions, which are now available to SIPCOT Industrial Parks, will be extended.

10. To encourage micro and industrial units to improve their production skills, to expand their business and to function profitably, the Tamil Nadu Industrial Investment Corporation will increase the interest subsidy component from 3 per cent to 6 per cent. This will facilitate creation of 400 new Micro and Small Industrial Units every year, and 1,200 Micro and Small Units to expand their business activities leading to 10,000 more jobs. The Government itself meets the additional subsidy of Rs.33 crore.

11. Considering the increase in space requirement for the Information Technology units in Coimbatore, it has been planned to construct a 5 lakh sq.ft. industrial complex on a nearby 9 acre of land at a cost of Rs.200 crore.

12. To increase the production capacity of aero space and high tech instruments, at the computer and engineering designing centre in the Aero Space and Defence Park in Sriperumbudur in Kancheepuram District, a special centre for new inventions and entrepreneurs will be set up on 1 lakh sq.ft. area at an estimated cost of Rs.100 crore.

MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM INDUSTRIES DEPARTMENT

For Small and Medium Industries to increase their production by using latest high tech devices, the Government has increased the capital subsidy of 25 per cent subject to a maximum of Rs. 30 lakh to Rs.50 lakh for the purchase of proper equipment. Through this the Government will incur an annual expenditure of Rs.20 crore approximately.

At present there are 64 coir industrial co-operative societies in the State providing continuous employment to over 10,000 women employees. But after the Gaja cyclone, societies in Thanjavur, Pudukkottai, Theni and Nagapattinam Districts were affected due to non-availability adequate raw materials. To tide over the shortage of raw material and function effectively, Rs.2.33 crore will be sanctioned to coir co-operative societies in the State.

EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING DEPARTMENT

With the social participation of public sector corporations Powergrid Corporation and Bharat Petroleum Corporation, two new Government Industrial Training Institutes, one at Perumbakkam in Kancheepuram District and Sembodai in Nagapattinam District, will be started at a cost of Rs.26 crore.

In the 11 Government Industrial Institutes in Ambattur, Chengalpattu, Tiruchirapalli, Cuddalore, Perambalur, Coimbatore, Salem, Dindigul, Madurai, Virudhunagar and Thoothukudi, new long-term and short-term industrial courses will be started at a cost of Rs.44.19 crore to give industrial training to youth in areas where there are more employment opportunities.

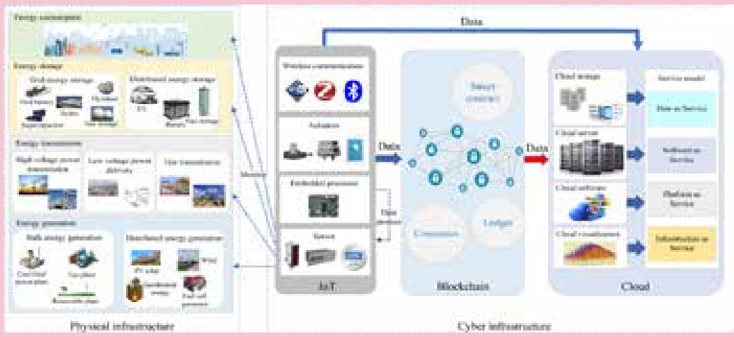
Most of the students of the Government Industrial Training Institutes are from the lower middle class and poor sections. To encourage them to start their own industries, tool kits will be presented to 10,000 students who successfully complete their training in 14 self-employment courses, at a cost of Rs.7.5 crore.

Hostels with food facilities will be established at a cost of Rs.64.41 crore in 12 Industrial Training Institutes in Sivagangai, Namakkal, Karaikudi, Dindigul (Women), Thoothukudi, Salem (Women), Madurai (Women), Dharmapuri, Pudukkottai, Pullambadi (Women), Nagalapuram and Ambasamudram.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT

In my reply to the Hon'ble Governor's address earlier this year, I said that steps would be taken to take the e-governance in Tamil Nadu to the next level through emerging technologies in information technology.

For this purpose, Blockchain backbone infrastructure will be set up by the TNeGA at a cost of Rs.40.80 crore to build a Blockchain platform where one can store information and documents safely.



In the present e-governance scenario, citizens have to apply to various Departments or agencies for obtaining Government services either through Government e-centre, internet or cell phones. Hereafter, the citizens will not have to apply at all. The TNeGA has created Makkal Number, which is generated immediately after the birth of a child. Through this Makkal Number, all statutory documents right from birth to death and certificates of an individual will be generated and given from the Citizen Vault. Residents can view their certificates and documents in their vault using their mobile number as the user ID and an OTP as the password. This scheme known as '*Makkalai Thedi Arasu*' will be implemented at a cost of Rs.90 crore. □

'Four pillars of democracy are functioning freely in the State'

Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** at the special convocation of the Tamil Nadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University on 13.07.2019.

Hon'ble President of India,

Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu,

Hon'ble Governor of Kerala,

Hon'ble Judge of Supreme Court of India,

Hon'ble Chief Justice, High Court of Madras,

Hon'ble Judges of Supreme Court and High Court of Madras,

Hon'ble Minister for Law, Courts and Prison Thiru. C.Ve. Shanmugam,

Hon'ble Ministers,

Vice - Chancellor of Tamil Nadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University,

Professors of this University,

Students, ready to blossom into future lawyers,

Newspaper and media friends,

At the outset, I convey my greetings to all of you.

It gives me immense pleasure to participate in this Special Convocation function. I appreciate the decision of the Tamil Nadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University to choose three eminent persons and honour them as Doctor

of Laws by the Hon'ble President of India. I am happy to mention here that this honour is the first of its kind in the annals of legal and judicial history.

I congratulate the three personalities who are receiving the honour today.

Our Hon'ble President of India started his career by enrolling himself as an Advocate in the Bar Council of Delhi. He served two consecutive terms as a member of Rajya Sabha. Before his elevation as President of India, he was the Governor of Bihar. He has been a custodian of the poor and stood for their cause.

Shri P. Sadasivam, Hon'ble Governor of Kerala and retired Chief Justice of Supreme Court, is a son of our soil. His sustained hard work and dedication made him rise to the highest position in the Judiciary.

He has pronounced several path-breaking judgments in his career. Notable among them is the 1993 Bombay Blast case, wherein several accused persons were sentenced, winning the praise of people. He has also delivered a judgment for ending the inhuman practice of manual scavenging.

Justice Bobde, Hon'ble Judge of the Supreme Court, hails from a family of lawyers. He delivered a landmark judgment stating that no Indian citizen without an Aadhaar card, can be deprived of basic services and Government subsidies.

Hon'ble Chief Justice of High Court of Madras, Justice Vijaya K. Tahilramani started her career by enrolling herself as a lawyer in the Bar Council of Maharashtra in 1982. Her deep involvement in cases relating to women prisoners and deserving people has made her the Chief Justice of the Madras High Court.

Tamil Nadu is firm in following the principle that "all are equal before Law". Tamil Nadu is a land where countless kings bowed down to justice - Manu Needhi Chozhan, who made his son pay with his life under the wheel of a chariot for his act of killing the calf of a cow, the Pandian King who gave up his life for erring in justice and Emperor Sibi who gave his own flesh to save the life of a pigeon.

The Indian Constitution has conferred full freedom to the four pillars of Democracy, namely Judiciary, Executive, Legislature and the Press, to function within their realms. Only then, people can live peacefully and happily. With great joy, I wish to state that in Tamil Nadu all the four sections of our polity are functioning freely.

Our Dr. Ambedkar Law University is the first Law University in the South Asian Countries. It is offering quality law courses at the lowest fees in the whole of Asia. A new complex with all facilities was set up for this University at Perungudi, Chennai at a cost of Rs.62 crore and was declared open by Hon'ble Amma.

I wish to mention a few of the steps taken by Hon'ble Amma and Hon'ble Amma's Government for the development of the study of Law.

- A National Law School was started in Tiruchirapalli
- Dr. Ambedkar Law University is offering courses to all students in Tamil Nadu at low rates. Of the 13 law colleges functioning under this University, 11 are Government colleges.
- Last year alone, 3 new Government Law Colleges were started; 3 more will be started this year.
- In the last 8 years, Rs.998.33 crore was spent towards construction of court buildings all over the State, quarters for judges and towards maintenance.
- Among the Law Universities in the Country, our Tamil Nadu Dr.Ambedkar Law University is the first to create in a big way, AIR a Digital laws compilation, and a legal app facility.
- Government provides appropriate funds to the law university and each Government Law College for upgrading their infrastructure.

Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma stated: "It is our joint responsibility to see that the benefits of Law reach the poor." Judges and courts should take appropriate steps towards this and I wish to state that Hon'ble Amma's Government will extend necessary co-operation for this.

Once again, I extend my greetings and congratulations to all the recipients of the Doctor of Laws degree.

I convey my thanks to the Hon'ble President of India for gracing this function and participating as Chief Guest. I thank all the good people who have conducted this function well.

Nandri! Vanakkam!

Own building for Kinathukadavu Sub-Registrar's Office

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami, at the Secretariat on 24.06.2019, declared open on behalf of the Finance Department, a Sub-Registrar's office building, built at a cost of Rs.60.05 lakh at Kinathukadavu in Coimbatore District.

Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma announced that Sub Registrar offices in the State functioning in rented buildings would soon be shifted to own buildings in a phased manner. The reasons for this are administrative convenience, averting payment of rents for buildings, implementing e-governance schemes such as Automated Treasury Bill Passing System (ATBPS) and e-pension successfully, properly storing priceless stamp papers, providing facilities for pensioners and constructing ramps for physically challenged people. In the last 8 years, 60 Sub Registrar offices functioning in rented buildings have been shifted to own buildings.

As part of this effort, Hon'ble Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami declared open the building for the Sub-Registrar's office at Kinathukadau in Coimbatore District. The new Sub-Registrar office has facilities for receipt and payment for Drawing and disbursing officers, facilities for pensioners to get pension without hassle and security lockers for storing priceless stamp papers and documents.

Buildings worth Rs. 206.80 crore for Fisheries Department

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami, at the Secretariat in Chennai on 24.06.2019, declared open buildings, built at a cost of Rs.12 crore for the Fisheries Engineering College, a constituent college of the Tamil Nadu Dr. J Jayalalithaa Fisheries University in Nagapattinam through video conferencing.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister also declared open buildings for Fisheries Department, Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma auditorium, veterinary hospital and ultra modern Aavin Parlour, all at the Tamil Nadu Veterinary College and Research University Complex, all constructed at a cost of Rs.194 crore, 80 lakh and 40,000.

For the first time in the country, a Fisheries University (Tamil Nadu Fisheries University) was set up in Nagapattinam in the year 2012 to provide education exclusively for development of fisheries. The University was renamed as Tamil Nadu Dr. J Jayalalithaa Fisheries University on 16.02.2018. The University is providing quality education on primary subjects allied to fisheries science, developing modern techniques through proper research, imparting fisheries based knowledge to fish growers, unemployed graduates and entrepreneurs.

The constituent college of the Tamil Nadu Dr. J Jayalalithaa Fisheries University, Nagapattinam started four year Bachelor of Engineering Course in Fisheries in the year 2015. To improve infrastructure facilities of the college Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami declared open the Fisheries Engineering College

building, constructed at a cost of Rs.12 crore on 24,000 sq.ft. area through video conferencing. Classrooms, college principal's room, teachers' room, laboratories, seminar hall, drinking water facilities and toilets have been provided in this new building.

Totally buildings, constructed at a cost of Rs.206 crore, 80 lakh and 40,000 were dedicated for public use by Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami, on behalf of the Animal Husbandary, Dairying and Fisheries Departments. The details are as follows:

In Thengaipattinam Village in Kanniyakumari District, a fishing harbour, set up at a cost of Rs.97.40 crore and in Vembar village in Thoothukudi District a fish landing, constructed at a cost of Rs.10.50 crore;

In Thanjavur District, at Mallipattinam Village a fishing harbour, reconstructed and renovated at a cost of Rs.60 crore and in Karaiyur Village a net weaving centre, approach road and bridges, at a cost of Rs.2 crore and Yeripurakkarai Village a net weaving centre and dry fish storage room, built at a cost of Rs.23 lakh;

In Kancheepuram District at Kovalam a fish landing centre, costing Rs.5 crore, in Krishnagiri an upgraded fish farm and in Nambiyur Nagar Village in Nagapattinam District a fish auction centre and fish auction floor, at a cost of Rs. 1.30 crore;

An auditorium named after Hon'ble Puratchi Thalavi Amma at the Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University Complex in Madhavaram, built at a cost of Rs.12.76 crore;

One veterinary hospital each at Kudavasal and Mannargudi in Thiruvarur District and in Melapattamangalam in Cuddalore District with infrastructure facilities like operation theatre, research room and treatment centre, all at a cost of Rs.52.80 lakh; and

A modern Aavin Parlour on a 1,000 sq.ft. area at Thuraimangalam in Perambalur District on the Tiruchi-Perambalur Road, at a cost of Rs.53 lakh. ■

Buildings opened for 11 godowns, two branch offices of Banks

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami, at the Secretariat on 24.06.2019, declared open 11 storage godowns, set up at a cost of Rs.16.15 crore on behalf of the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation and also branch office buildings for Kumbakonam Central Co-operative Bank at Muthupet and Medical College branch of the Thanjavur Central Co-operative Bank, both built at a cost of Rs. 1.50 crore.

The Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation plays a vital role in distribution of foodgrains to people under the Public Distribution System. To ensure food for all and to store foodgrains for future distribution, the Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma made a statement in the Assembly under Rule 110 that, new godowns would be constructed by the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation (TNCSC) for increasing the storage of foodgrains.

As per the announcement, 2 godowns with a capacity of 1,500 metric tonnes each (Rs.4.10 crore) at Keezhmurungai Village in Ambur Division in Vellore District; 2 godowns with a capacity of 1,000 metric tonnes each (Rs.2.65 crore), at Melapulam Village in Nemili Division in Vellore District, 2 godowns with a capacity of 1,000 metric tonnes each (Rs.2.65 crore) at Vadamugam Vellode Village in Perundurai Division in Erode District, 2 godowns with a capacity of 1,000 metric tonnes of each (Rs.2.65 crore), at Cheyyur Village in Cheyyur Division in Kancheepuram District, 3 godowns of 1,000 metric tonnes capacity each (Rs.2.65 crore) at Palayamkottai Village in Attur Division in Dindigul District; and a new building for the Muthupet branch of the Kumbakonam Central Co-operative Bank (Rs.60 lakh) and for the Medical College branch

of the Thanjavur Central Co-operative Bank (Rs.70 lakh), were opened.

Totally 11 godowns and two bank branch office buildings, all costing Rs.17.65 crore, were declared open by Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami.

As a token of handing over appointment orders on compassionate grounds to legal heirs of 21 employees of the Corporation, who died in harness, for the post of writer, weighing assistant, office assistant and sweeper, the Hon'ble Chief Minister gave away the orders to 7 beneficiaries in person.

On behalf of the TNCSC, the Hon'ble Minister for Food and Consumer Protection, Thiru. R.Kamaraj, handed over cheques for a total value of Rs.3.19 crore, as equity share of the Tamil Nadu Government in the Corporation for the financial years 2016-2017 (Rs. 49,91,475) and 2007-2018 (Rs.2,68,89,935) to the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

'Encroachments in Adambakkam tank will be removed'

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami's** explanation on the floor of the Tamil Nadu Assembly on 10.07.2019 regarding removal of encroachments in Adambakkam Tank *(English Translation)*

Hon'ble Speaker Sir,

Hon'ble Member mentioned in the House about Adambakkam Tank. Already footpath work is going on. Garbage on one side of the tank has since been removed. Steps are being taken through the District Collector, Chennai, for eviction of encroachments. After the eviction of encroachments, the tank will be deepened, its capacity will be expanded and banks will be strengthened. After the completion of these works, water will be stored. Similarly, a portion of the approach road to Adyar bridge in Anakaputhur requires less than one acre of land, which belongs to Indian Air Force Department. Negotiations are going on for transferring the land to Highways Department from the IAF. After the Highways Department takes over the land, the remaining portion of the bridge will be completed and the bridge will be thrown open for public use. The Member concerned has been placing the demand for completion of the bridge for the last three years. Only now we have got the permission from the Central Government. I would like to inform the member through the Speaker that the work will commence soon and the bridge will be completed soon.

Deny permission for Mekedatu project proposal

Text of the D.O. letter dated 24.06.2019 of
Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
addressed to **Shri Narendra Modi**, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India

I write this letter seeking your urgent personal intervention to deny permission to the proposal of Cauvery Neeravari Nigama Niyamita of Karnataka for grant of Terms of Reference for Environmental Clearance for Mekedatu Balancing Reservoir and Drinking water project. This action of Karnataka in seeking Environmental Clearance for Mekedatu Project is in utter violation of the Final Order of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal and the judgement of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 16.02.2018. I request you to direct the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change to reject outright the proposal of Karnataka.

The Government of Tamil Nadu has been conveying its strong objections and has been urging the Government of India to reject outright and return the Detailed Project Report of the Mekedatu Balancing Reservoir Project of Karnataka. The proposed Mekedatu Project is not in conformity with the Final Order of the Tribunal and the judgment of the Supreme Court, since the Project is not a designated reservoir for the release of water from Karnataka to Tamil Nadu in terms of the Final Order of the Tribunal as modified by the Hon'ble Supreme Court. Further, Karnataka has not obtained the prior concurrence of the Government of Tamil Nadu and other co-basin States. Cauvery being a deficit Basin, construction of Mekedatu or any project in any place by upper riparian States will drastically affect the lower riparian States in getting due share of water as per the Final Order of the Tribunal as modified by the Hon'ble Supreme Court. Moreover, the matter is pending before the Supreme Court. I have brought these facts to you in the Memorandum I presented on 15.06.2019.

In the circumstances, I request you to direct the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change to issue instructions to the Authorities concerned not to consider the proposal of Cauvery Neeravari Nigama Niyamita for grant of Terms of Reference to obtain Environmental Clearance for Mekedatu Balancing Reservoir and Drinking water project. Further, the Ministry of Jal Shakthi may be directed to advise the Central Water Commission to reject outright and return the Detailed Project Report of the Mekedatu Balancing Reservoir Project of Karnataka and also not to accord any clearance to the above project without obtaining the prior concurrence of the Government of Tamil Nadu and of other co-basin States.

I shall be thankful for your immediate response in the matter.

Hon'ble Chief Minister requests Union Minister not to accord permission to Mekedatu proposal

Text of the D.O. letter dated 10.7.2019 of **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami,** Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu addressed to Hon'ble Minister of Jal Shakti Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat.

I have on 24.06.2019 written to the Hon'ble Prime Minister seeking his personal intervention to deny permission to the proposal of Cauvery Neeravari Nigama Niyamita for grant of Terms of Reference to obtain Environmental Clearance for Mekedatu Balancing Reservoir and Drinking Water Project.

However, it has been brought to my notice that, the Expert Appraisal Committee for River Valley and Hydro electric Projects functioning under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has included the proposal of Karnataka for grant of fresh Terms of Reference to Mekedatu Balancing Reservoir and Drinking Water Project in its meeting scheduled to be held on 19.07.2019. The action of the Committee to include the proposal of Karnataka for discussion in the meeting is a violation of the Notified Final Order of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal and the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

The Government of Tamil Nadu has been conveying its strong objections and has been urging the Government of India to reject outright the proposal of Karnataka for its proposed Mekedatu Project, as it

violates the Final Order of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal as modified by the Supreme Court. Further, Karnataka has not obtained the prior concurrence of the Government of Tamil Nadu and of other co-basin States. Cauvery basin being a deficit Basin, construction of Mekedatu or any project in any place by upper riparian State will drastically affect the lower riparian State in getting its due share of water. The Government of Tamil Nadu has filed an Interlocutory Application before the Supreme Court against the proposal of Karnataka for constructing a reservoir and also a Contempt Petition against all concerned and the matter is pending in the Supreme Court.

In the circumstances, I request you to take up the matter with Hon'ble Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change to issue instructions to the Expert Appraisal Committee for River Valley and Hydro electric Projects to withdraw the subject of grant of fresh Terms of Reference to Karnataka for Mekedatu Balancing Reservoir and Drinking Water Project from the Agenda for the 25th meeting of the Committee to be held on 19.07.2019. The Committee may also be directed to desist from entertaining the proposal of Karnataka in future and the present proposal may be rejected and returned to Karnataka.

Since the proposed Mekedatu Balancing Reservoir and Drinking Water Project of Karnataka is a clear violation of the Final Order of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal as modified by the Supreme Court, I request you to instruct Ministry of Jal Shakti not to accord any clearance to this project as well as any other Project in the Cauvery Basin contemplated by Karnataka without obtaining the prior concurrence of the Government of Tamil Nadu and of other co-basin States.

I look forward to your immediate reply in the matter.

Forty-three Power sub-stations opened at Rs.219.52 crore

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami declared open at the Secretariat on 21.06.2019 through video conferencing, 43 power sub-stations set up across the State at a total cost of Rs.219.52 crore.

Considering the importance of setting up additional power sub-stations to cut down power losses in transmission and maintenance charges and supply power in a regular way with correct voltage and meet peak demands, the Tamil Nadu Government that functions on the lines of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, is setting up new and quality enhanced sub-stations as per need.

Towards this end, a 110/22 KV sub-station has been set up at a cost of Rs.8.17 crore at Athani in Erode District. The other sub-stations declared open were: 110/33 KV stations at Narasingampatti in Madurai District and at Eliambedu in Thiruvallur District (total cost Rs.25.65 crore); 110/22 KV station at Gangapuram, Erode District (Rs.7.78 crore); 110/11 KV station at Noyyal, Karur District (Rs.8.41 crore); 110/33 KV stations at Thirupurambiam, Thanjavur District, Karisalpatti, Tirunelveli District, Puliyur, Karur District, Keezhkuppam and Ko.Poovanur, Cuddalore District (Rs.12.82 crore); and 33/11KV sub-stations at Keeraipatti, Ramakonda Halli and Maveripatti, Dharmapuri District, Neeradi (Kancheepuram), Aravakurichi and Uppidamangalam (Karur), Muthukurikki, Irudhukottai, Ekkur, Poonapalli and Mathigiri (Karur), Kulathur Naickenpatti and Mangala Kovil (Pudukkottai), Sathyanagar (Salem), Swamimalai (Thanjavur), Mittanamalli, Chinnambedu and Karambakkam (Thiruvarur), Appedu and Onnupuram (Tiruvannamalai), Cheranmahadevi (Tirunelveli), Chengapalli, (Tiruppur), Vidathilam Patti, Amayapuram Village (Tiruchirapalli), Athur (Thoothukodi), Morasapalli, Keeraisathu, Karikkal, Pallikonda, Udhayendram, Upparapalli and Modikuppam (Vellore) and Mamsapuram and S.Kodikulam (Virudhunagar District) – Rs.156.68 crore. Totally 43 sub-stations costing Rs.219.52 crore were opened.

Tamil Nadu Police show the way through Massive Blood Donation

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami, on 21.06.2019 inaugurated a Massive Blood Donation Camp organized by the Tamil Nadu Police Department in co-ordination with the Tamil Nadu State Blood Transfusion Council of the Tamil Nadu AIDS Control Society at the Rajarathinam Stadium Complex, Egmore.

Similar blood donation camps are being organized in 40 places all over the State by 89 Blood Donation Banks, in all District Headquarters and Corporations on behalf of the Tamil Nadu Police Department in co-operation with the Tamil Nadu State Blood Transfusion Council wing of the Tamil Nadu AIDS Control Society with a view to making people aware of the importance of blood donation.

Over 13,000 Police Personnel, including armed Policemen and Police women belonging to Tamil Nadu Special Police, Metropolitan and District armed Police Personnel and Officers and Police Personnel undergoing training in Police Academies are expected to participate and donate blood in these camps. Blood received from these camps will be handed over to the Government General Hospital for the use of the public. The blood donors in these camps will be suitably honoured by the Tamil Nadu Government.

Buildings opened for Children's Home

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami, at the Secretariat in Chennai on 21.06.2019, declared open buildings for Madurai Children's Observation Home and a renovated Juvenile Justice Board building, all constructed at a cost of Rs.6.04 crore, on behalf of the Social Defence Department.

Children Observation Homes, which were earlier functioning under the control of Self Help Groups, were brought under the control of Government considering the welfare of the children, and their administration was handed over to the Social Defence Department. As the Observation Home buildings were in a dilapidated condition, the Government issued an order sanctioning Rs. 6.04 crore for constructing new buildings for these homes, taking into consideration the safety of children.

As a follow up measure, the Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami, declared open buildings with infrastructure facilities such as bedrooms, dining halls, classrooms, rooms for employees, library, recreation rooms, medical rooms, bathrooms and toilets, built at a cost of Rs. 5.55 crore, to cater to the needs of 75 boys and 25 girls at the Children's Observation Home in Madurai and also renovated Juvenile Justice Board buildings and office buildings, constructed at a cost of Rs.49.50 lakh at Madurai.

Hon'ble Chief Minister declared open Rs. 425.72 crore upgraded Arani-Villupuram Road

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami declared open for public use, through video conferencing at the Secretariat on 21.06.2019, the upgraded stretch of road from Arani to Villupuram on the Arcot-Villupuram State Highways in the Districts of Tiruvannamalai and Villupuram. The road has been upgraded at a cost of Rs.425.72 crore. The Hon'ble Chief Minister also commissioned 14 bridges and 3 railway over bridges, constructed at a cost of Rs.209.18 crore for public use.

Realizing the importance of road infrastructure facilities in the State's socio-economic growth, the Tamil Nadu Government that functions on the lines of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, is keenly implementing works like construction of new bridges, laying quality roads and maintaining roads and bridges for increasing the road usage in tune with the ever-increasing traffic needs and ensure safe travel to people.

Besides ensuring safe journey to passengers, the upgraded Arani-Villupuram road will cut down travel time in good measure. For the use of the public, 35 bus stops have been put up on this stretch. In 15 of them solar electric lights have been fixed. To benefit the people, 36,000 saplings have been planted on this road. This stretch of road will benefit residents in Arani, Vinnamangalam, Thellur, Indiravanam, Gangai Choodamani, Chetpet, Valatthi, Annamangalam, Jayankondan, Chellapiratti, Appampattu, Kavarai, Palapattu, Ottampattu, Maavendhal, Ponpathi, Chittampoondi, Gingee Pudur, Muttathur, Mandagapattu, Arasalapuram, Nemur, Narasinganur, Kanjanur, Vembi, Poondi and Thumbur.

The other structures declared open were: railway over bridge, constructed near Thiruvanaikaval in Trichy District on the Chennai-Tiruchi-Dindigul Road (Rs.125 crore); a railway over bridge in Virudhunagar to replace level crossing No.403 on the auxiliary road to Virudhunagar and Thulukkapatti railway stations in Virudhunagar District (Rs.26.75 crore), railway over bridge in Dindigul City Railway Station Workshop to replace railway level crossing No.309 on the Dindigul Yard in Dindigul District (Rs.26.40 crore); a bridge across a canal at Mariyanallur in Tiruvannamalai District (Rs.1.30 crore), a river bridge across a Odai at Aladipatti in Tirunelveli District (Rs.88 lakh), a bridge across Marudaiyaru in Panangur, Perambalur District (Rs.2.75 crore), a bridge across a jungle stream at Ayyampatti, (Rs.2.20 crore) and across Pennaiyaru at Kokkarapatti (Rs.1.87 crore) - both in Dharmapuri District; a culvert (Rs.1.10 crore) on Kattur-Koppavali and Sugar Mill Extension Road, a road bridge (Rs.1.25 crore) on Kallakudi-Thappai road, both in Trichy District, a high rise bridge (Rs.2.85 crore) across Thenpennai river on Pathakotta road that branches off from VCC road, a river bridge (Rs.4.98 crore) across Thottalaaru in Anjetti, a river bridge (Rs.1.70 crore) across a Odai in Thagatti and a river bridge (Rs.1.32 crore) across a jungle stream at Belur – all in Krishnagiri District; a bridge (Rs.1.72 crore) across Nariyar, Uranipuram, Thanjavur District; a culvert (Rs.62 lakh) at Singavaram on the Ginjee-Vadapalai road, Villupuram District; a bridge (Rs.6.49 crore) to replace an old iron bridge at Arigilpadi on the Sadras-Chengalpattu-Kancheepuram-Arakkonam-Thiruttani road, Vellore District. Totally 3 railway over bridges, 14 bridges and an upgraded road, all costing Rs.634.90 crore were thrown open for public use.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister presented jeep keys to 5 officials as a token of distribution of 32 jeeps (Rs.2.06 crore) to officers for implementing, supervising and undertaking field inspection for laying the Chennai-Kanniyakumari Industrial Corridor, being executed with assistance from the Asian Development Bank. ■

Hon'ble Chief Minister chairs review meeting for plastic-ban measures

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami presided over a meeting at the Secretariat on 17.06.2019 to review the progress achieved on the ban imposed by the Government on the use of 'one-time use plastic' goods from January 1st, 2019, to create a 'plastic pollution free Tamil Nadu'.

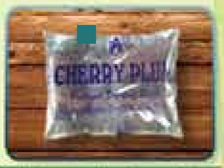
The meeting reviewed in detail the steps taken after the imposition of the ban and the action taken against the establishments that continued to use the banned goods. It discussed the fine imposed on the institutions that use the banned plastic articles and the notification already issued to cancel the license of commercial establishments that continue to use these goods. The Departments concerned were instructed to take steps to encourage people to use alternatives to plastic and bring institutions that continue to use the banned plastic goods under surveillance and take severe action against them. The Hon'ble Chief Minister appealed to the people to co-operate with the Government that functions on the lines of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, in its efforts to retrieve the environment by using alternatives to the banned plastic ones.

Plastic Sheet for food wrapping

Plastic / Thermocol plates

Plastic coated paper cups

Plastic tumbler


Water pouches / packets

Plastic Coated Sheet for dining table

Plastic coated paper plates

Plastic tea cups

Thermocol cups

Plastic straw

Honb'le Chief Minister inaugurates facilities for working women

New buildings, classrooms, hostels for Adi Dravidar and Tribal students

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami, at the Secretariat on 13.06.2019 declared open through video conferencing, hostel buildings for school and college students of the Adi Dravidar and Tribal communities and school buildings and industrial training sheds and hostel buildings for working women, all built at a cost of Rs. 47.30 crore, on behalf of the Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare Department.

The Tamil Nadu Government, following the path of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, has been implementing many welfare schemes, including free education, noon meals, bicycles at no cost and educational kits at no cost to Adi Dravidar and Tribal students, so that they continue their education without dropping out and attain a higher status in society.

In this connection, 19 hostel buildings constructed at a cost of Rs.21.60 crore were opened for the students of the Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare School and Colleges. These hostel buildings are at Mayilam in Villupuram District, Orikkai in Kancheepuram District, Vadakarai, K.G.Kandigai and Chozhavaram in Thiruvallur District, Saidapet in Chennai District, Periyakulam in Theni District, Keeramangalam in Pudhukkottai District, Palacode in Dharmapuri District, Kumaratchi in Cuddalore District, Abiramam in

Ramanathapuram District, Udhagamandalam in Nilgiris District, Valliyur, Kallur and Serthamaram in Tirunelveli District, Periyasamipuram in Thoothukudi District, Aanaikatti in Coimbatore District and Valavanthinadu (Kolli Hills) in Namakkal District.

Other buildings and facilities inaugurated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister are a hostel for working women at Tiruchi Cantonment in Tiruchirappalli District at a cost of Rs.1.10 crore; an industrial training shed at a cost of Rs.3.30 crore in Vadakarai in Tiruvallur District; additional classrooms, compound walls, science laboratories and toilets, constructed at a cost of Rs.21.30 crore for the Government Adi Dravidar Welfare Higher Secondary Schools at Chidambaram (Nandanar) and Dharmanallur in Cuddalore District, Sundararajapuram in Virudhunagar District, Sevvapet and Vadakarai in Tiruvallur District, Abishegakattalai in Tiruvarur District, Agarappettai in Thanjavur District and Pulichapallam in Villupuram District; for residential school students of Government Tribal Welfare Higher Secondary School at Mullukuruchi in Namakkal District, Burgur in Erode District and Maniyarpalayam in Villupuram District and S.Thathampatti in Dharmapuri District and Pattraikadu in Tiruvannamalai District, for the students of the Government Adi Dravidar Welfare Middle School, Agarappettai in Thanjavur District and Government Residential Tribal Ekalaiva Model School at M.Palada in Nilgiris District.

Totally school buildings, classrooms, hostel buildings, and working women's hostels, all built at a cost of Rs. 47.30 crore, for the students of Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare students were declared open by Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami.

Birth Anniversary : July 7

Rettaimalai Seenivasan

Rettaimalai Seenivasan was born on July 7th 1859 at Kozhiyalam Village, Kancheepuram District to an ordinary labourer named Rettaimalai. Hence, Seenivasan was known as "Rettaimalai Seenivasan". He had his higher education at the Government Arts College of Coimbatore. Then he served as an Accountant in the Nilgiris in the East India Company. In 1887 at the age of 28, he got married to Renganayagi and had six children.

His wife was mainly responsible for his services to his fellowmen. She was a kind and social minded woman which made Rettaimalai Seenivasan to carry on his mission successfully.

In 1890 he came to Madras and settled down with his family. He started his Civil Rights Agitations against the social disabilities of the Depressed Classes and fought for their equal rights. He also wanted to give them a respectable position in all social and political affairs.

Then he traveled all over South India, stayed with the downtrodden in order to get first hand information about the living condition of these people. He learnt that the people were suffering for want of clean water and proper housing facilities. This moved Rettaimalai Seenivasan very much and he decided to do something to remove their inabilities.

The aim and object of his life was to uplift the downtrodden Community. In order to high light the grievances of his Community he started "*Paraiyar Mahajana Sabha*" in 1891 and it had branches all over Tamil Nadu.

In 1924 on the request of his wife he brought about a resolution in the Law Committee meeting of the Council that the Depressed Classes could use the public roads, wells, public places, resorts and buildings etc. Since 1925 the resolution came into force. Thus, Seenivasan worked for more than 45 years for the upliftment of the Depressed Class people with great vigor and courage. He expected no profit or popularity for his untiring service he had done to the people and he was revered as a great leader, affectionately his people called him "Grand Father" *Thatha Rettaimalai Seenivasan*".

Rettaimalai Seenivasan breathed his last in the year 1945.

Source:

- Raobahadur Rettaimalai Seenivasan

Dr. G. Thangavelu

Hon'ble Chief Minister declared open 5 hostels for BC, MBC, Denotified tribes students

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami, at the Secretariat on 13.06.2019, declared open 5 hostel buildings for the school and college students of Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Tribes, constructed at a cost of Rs.5.18 crore in Pudukkottai, Villupuram, Thanjavur, Dindigul, and Tiruppur Districts, on behalf of the BCs, MBCs and Denotified Tribes Department, through video conferencing.

The Tamil Nadu Government, treading the path of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, has been extending concessions that include construction of new school and hostel buildings and educational grant for students belonging to the BC, MBC and Denotified Tribe communities so that there is no drop out among these community students and also for their educational and social improvement.

In this connection, at Athani in Pudukkottai District, a hostel building for the students of the Backward Classes Welfare School, at a cost of Rs.93.71 lakh; in Ayanthur in Villupuram District, a hostel building for the students of the Backward Classes Welfare School, constructed at a cost of Rs.94.94 lakh; at Poondi in Thanjavur District, a hostel building for the students of the Most Backward Classes Welfare School, at a cost of Rs.1.44 crore; at Kodaikanal in Dindigul District, a hostel building for the students of the Most Backward Classes Welfare School, built at a cost of Rs.1.4 crore and at Tiruppur in Tiruppur District a hostel building for the students of Denotified Tribes Welfare School, constructed at a cost of Rs.81.10 lakh, were opened. Totally, 5 hostel buildings, built at a cost of Rs.5.19 crore were declared open by Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami from the Secretariat in Chennai.

Hon'ble Chief Minister chairs meeting to review water supply

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami at the Secretariat on 21.06.2019, reviewed in detail the supply of drinking water in all Districts including the Greater Chennai Corporation and offered his advice to officials.

Already, Rs.710 crore has been allotted for the current year for regular supply of drinking water throughout the State. After the review meeting, the Hon'ble Chief Minister issued orders for a further allotment of Rs.200 crore for drinking water scheme works. This amount will be utilized for works to put an end to drinking water problems in Greater Chennai Corporation, other Municipal Corporations, Town Panchayats and Panchayats.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister also issued orders allotting Rs.65 crore separately for bringing 10 million litres of drinking water daily from Jolarpettai, Vellore District to Villivakkam by rail wagons for supply to people in Chennai.

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami** met the Ambassador of Israel to India, Dr. Ron Malka, when the latter called on him at the Secretariat on 18.06.2019. Consul General of Israel to South India Ms. Dana Kursh, Secretary Ms. Adva Vilchinski and high Government officials were present during the meeting.

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami** on 18.06.2019 reviewed the blueprint of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma Memorial to be constructed at the site of the Bharat Ratna Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. M.G.R. Memorial, where the mortal remains of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma were put to rest. Hon'ble Ministers and MLAs were with the Hon'ble Chief Minister during the review.

We put forth before people the ongoing schemes and the ones to be implemented

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami's** reply to DMK Member in the Assembly on 01.07.2019 during the demands for grants for the Forest Department. (*English Translation*)

Hon'ble Speaker Sir,

People know all the announcements they (DMK) made. People would have now understood how you got their votes by deceit. How many announcements they made – loan waiver if it is below 5 sovereigns; waiver of education loan obtained from banks; Rs.6,000 per family! You got the vote by such propaganda that was contrary to truth; people did not give their vote on their own accord. At no place did I give such promises. We put forth before people the ongoing schemes and the ones to be implemented. If you had guts and attained a victory by following such path, it would have been alright. But this victory you got is by deceit; like enticing a playing child with sweets and kidnapping it. You flaunted promises that could never be implemented and cheated the people.

A year ago, you formed an alliance in the R.K.Nagar Assembly Constituency, contested the election and lost your deposit. But we got more votes than you (in that election). If you, who had lost your deposit, could (now) win so impressively, why can't we? You said you would rule both at the Centre and in the State; but people have left you dangling in the air.

Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurates buildings for Police Personnel

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami, at the Secretariat on 13.06.2018, declared open 137 Police quarters for the Tamil Nadu Special Police Battalion-4 at Kovaipudur in Coimbatore District, constructed at a cost of Rs.10.88 crore through video conferencing.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister also declared open 124 Police quarters, 4 Police Stations, 3 buildings for the Police Department, 13 quarters for Fire and Rescue Services Department and an IOC petrol bunk at Puzhal Central Prison complex, in association with the Prison Department. The Hon'ble Chief Minister also laid the foundation stone for a building in the first phase for the Police Public School to be constructed at a cost of Rs.5 crore.

The Police Department is performing important duties, such as maintaining peace, law and order in the State, preventing crimes and apprehending criminals and getting them proper punishment. To improve their quality of service, the Tamil Nadu Government, following the path of the Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, has been implementing various schemes including construction of new Police Stations, quarters for Personnel, improving infrastructure to Police Department Offices and new vehicles for undertaking patrols.

As a part of this, the Hon'ble Chief Minister declared open 137 Police quarters for the Tamil Nadu Special Police Battalion-4 at Kovaipudur in Coimbatore District, constructed at a cost of Rs.10.88 crore, through video conferencing.

In addition, the following facilities were opened. Seventy-six Police tenements at Thuraimangalam, Perambalur District, 48 Police quarters for Tamil Nadu Special Police Battalion-9 at Manimutharu in

Thirunelveli District, built at a cost of Rs.15.21 crore; four Police Stations one each at Chitlapakkam and Thirumangalam in Chennai Corporation, Uthirakosamangai in Ramanathauram District and Patteeswaram in Thanjavur District, set up at a cost of Rs.4.33 crore; Office building for Crime Branch Police wing at Kancheepuram, constructed at a cost of Rs.63.57 lakh, Administrative building for Armed Forces in Annathanapatti in Salem District, at a cost of Rs.2.98 crore, quarters for the Deputy Superintendent of Police with camp office at Arakkonam in Vellore District, built at a cost of Rs.54.61 lakh and 13 quarters for the Fire and Rescue Services Department at Devakottai in Sivagangai District, constructed at a cost of Rs.1.44 crore.

Totally, buildings for the Police and Fire Service and Rescue Operations Department built at a cost of Rs.36.2 crore were declared open by Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami.

To improve the maintenance of Prison Bazaar, the Prison Department, in co-ordination with the Indian Oil Corporation, set up a petrol bunk at the Central Prison Complex in Puzhal and the same was declared open by the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

For the benefit of beneficiaries of 'Own Your House Scheme' in Melakottaiyur in Kancheepuram District and for Police personnel in different parts of the State, the Tamil Nadu Government has given administrative sanction for a Police Public School on a 10 acre site at Melakottaiyur in Kancheepuram District, at a cost of Rs.51.15 crore. In the first phase, a building for the Public School is to be built at a cost of Rs.5 crore. Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami, laid the foundation for the school building.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister also released 'Year Book 2018', a collection of details regarding cases handled by the Tamil Nadu Police and other important information of the Department.

Cutting edge technology to track record of traffic violations

Hon'ble Chief Minister launches e-challan system to reduce traffic violations

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami, at the Secretariat on 28.06.2019, inaugurated the State-level Cashless Digital Transfer e-challan system for traffic offences, on behalf of the Home Department, with a view to reduce traffic violations through modernization of traffic management and regulations. As a token of inauguration of the scheme, the Hon'ble Chief Minister handed over handheld e-challan receipt machines to 5 Traffic inspectors.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was entered into with the State Bank of India for the e-challan receipt payment scheme by the Tamil Nadu Police. Under the scheme, the maintenance and service of modernized 750 e-challan receipt machines will be done free of cost.

At present the Tamil Nadu Police, under the Motor Vehicles Act, collects penalty in cash from traffic offenders on the spot and issues receipt for the payment of penalty. The fine amount is also collected through courts if the offenders do not have cash to pay the fine on the spot. Under this scheme, the serial number of receipts or details of the penalty collected from the offender for earlier offences may not be available. So, the Department finds it difficult to review the cash-based earlier system. With the introduction of modernized e-challan system, it is easy to immediately collect the full details of the erring motorists, including earlier offences and fines paid.

The National Informatics Centre gives the necessary software for the issue of e-challan receipts, Android for the Apps and software for the internet. As the mobile Apps and the software is integrated with Vahan and Sarathi software, it is possible to get full details of traffic regulation act. Through this, it is possible to trace details of vehicle thefts, criminals indulged in such crimes and list out serial criminals.

With the introduction of the scheme, it is possible to ensure transparent implementation of traffic regulations, cashless collection of fines through e-challan for traffic offences, reduction of road accidents and violations and adherence of people to traffic rules. The scheme will be a forerunner in protecting people's lives and property. ■

Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurated class rooms for Government schools constructed at a cost of Rs.84.33 crore

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami at the Secretariat on 13.06.2019, declared open through video conferencing, 19 additional classrooms and a laboratory, constructed at a cost of Rs. 2.64 crore, at the Mahakavi Bharathiyar Centenary Memorial Government Girls Higher Secondary School in Ettayapuram in Thoothukudi District on behalf of the School Education Department. The Hon'ble Chief Minister on the occasion also declared open 51 Government High school and Higher Secondary School buildings, built at a cost of Rs. 81.69 crore and also distributed smart cards for students of Government and Government-aided schools.

The Tamil Nadu Government, which follows the footsteps of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, wants students of Tamil Nadu to excel in education and attain higher status in society, and to this end is successfully implementing various schemes including free education, free bus pass facility, bicycle at no cost, uniforms, text and note books, laptops, educational kits, footwear, incentive to reduce drop-outs, creation of additional infrastructure in schools and construction of new classrooms.

As a part of these schemes, in Ettayapuram in Thoothukudi District under NABARD assistance scheme, the Hon'ble Chief Minister declared open 19 additional classrooms and a laboratory, constructed at a cost of

Rs. 2.64 crore, for the Mahakavi Bharathiyar Centenary Memorial Government Girls Higher Secondary school.

In addition, the Hon'ble Chief Minister also declared open classrooms, laboratories, toilets and compound walls in 30 High Schools and Higher Secondary Schools in Cuddalore, Dindigul, Erode, Kanniyakumari, Madurai, Nagapattinam, Nilgiris, Pudukkottai, Sivagangai, Tiruvallur, Villupuram and Virudhunagar Districts, constructed at a cost of Rs. 53.85 crore with loan assistance from NABARD.

Under the Integrated Education scheme, classrooms for 21 Government High and Higher Secondary Schools in Cuddalore, Kancheepuram, Kanniyakumari, Nagapattinam, Pudukkottai, Ramanathapuram, Tiruchirappalli, Tiruvallur, Tiruvannamalai and Vellore Districts, constructed at a cost of Rs.27.85 crore;

Totally classrooms, constructed at a cost of Rs. 84.33 crore, were declared open by the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

In addition, Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami also inaugurated distribution of smart cards to 70 lakh students studying from Class 1 to Class 12 of Government and Government-aided school students during the academic year 2019-2020, with facility for registering personal details of students, costing Rs.12.70 crore. As a token of inauguration, the Hon'ble Chief Minister handed over smart cards to 7 students.

New buildings for five Taluk offices opened at a cost of Rs.12.79 crore

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami, at the Secretariat on 13.06.2019, declared open Taluk Office buildings for Tahsildars in Thoothukudi and Srivaikundam in Thoothukudi District, Kalayarkoil and Singampunari in Sivagangai District and Soolagiri in Krishnagiri District, built at a cost of Rs.12.79 crore, on behalf of the Revenue and Disaster Management Department.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister, on the occasion, also laid the foundation stone for an integrated office complex at Ezhilagam in Chennai, to be constructed at a cost of Rs.15.07 crore and to house the Disaster Management office, training centre and State control room.

As per the excellent dictum that the Government should go to the people, the Revenue and Disaster Management Department takes various welfare measures to the people and acts as a bridge between the Government and the people.

This Government that functions on the lines of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma has been implementing many schemes that include creation of new revenue divisions, own buildings with all facilities for Department offices, and construction of quarters for the staff of the Revenue and Disaster Management Department.

As part of this activity, the Hon'ble Chief Minister declared open Taluk office buildings at a cost of Rs.4.79 crore at Thoothukudi and Srivaikundam and at a cost of Rs.8 crore at Kalayarkovil and Singampunari in Sivaganga District and at Soolagiri in Krishnagiri District.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister also laid the foundation stone for an integrated office building for the Disaster Management

Department, training centre and State control room to be constructed at a cost of Rs.15.07 crore at Ezhilagam in Chennai.

The Directorate of Survey and Settlement is more than 150 years old and is one of the oldest Departments of the State. The Department maintains land survey divisions, land survey index, land records and details of land-ownership and changes in it.

For the Department to work without any slackness, the Tamil Nadu Government, following the path laid down by the Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma has been taking several measures. This includes filling up vacant posts in various sections of the Directorate. As a part of these measures, the Government, through the Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission, has recruited 101 posts of land surveyor and 157 posts of draftsmen. Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami handed over, as a token, appointment orders to 14 selected persons. ■

Environmental Engineer's Office, laboratory opened at Tiruvallur

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami, at the Secretariat on 13.06.2019, declared open through video conferencing on behalf of the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, the District Environmental Engineer's Office and Laboratory at the Master Plan Collectorate Complex in Tiruvallur, built at a cost of Rs.2.05 crore. The Hon'ble Chief Minister on the occasion also honoured District Collectors, Industrial Units, Educational Institutions, Residents' Welfare Associations and Regional Co-ordinators with Green Awards for the Year 2018.

The Tamil Nadu Government, functioning on the lines of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, is undertaking various tasks through the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board including issuing compliance certificates to industries for starting production if they comply with all parameters in meeting environmental conditions.

In the budget demand for the Environment Department for the financial year 2014-2015, it was announced that the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board would set up the District Environmental Engineer's Office and Laboratory on a 473 sq.metre area in the Master Plan Collectorate Complex in Tiruvallur District at a cost of Rs.2.05 crore. As per the announcement, Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami declared open the District Environmental Engineer's Office and the Laboratory.

The Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board every year selects three District Collectors, three Industrial Units and three Educational Institutions for maintaining the best environmental practices and honours them with Green Awards with a view to encourage them.

For the year 2018, the Hon'ble Chief Minister honoured the Nilgiris District Collector, Tmt. J.Innocent Divya I.A.S.,

former Madurai District Collector K. Veera Raghava Rao I.A.S., and former Tirunelveli District Collector Thiru. Sandeep Nanduri I.A.S., with Green Awards for adopting the best environmental practices in their respective Districts.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister also honoured with Green Awards three Industrial Units - Adani Marine Infrastructure Developer Pvt. Ltd., Jeyavishnu Tex Processors Pvt. Ltd., and the Ramco Cements Ltd., three Educational Institutions - Sri. Venkateswara Engineering College, Kancheepuram District, Mepco Schlenk Engineering College and Ramco Vidyalaya, Virudhunagar, for adopting the best environmental practices.

For converting degradable wastes into bio-fertilizer or methane, recycling non-degradable wastes, adopting rain harvesting in houses, tree planting and creating awareness about environment among people, the Pollution Control Board selected registered apartment owners association, the Central Park South, Sabari Terrace Apartments Owners Association, Ceebros Boulevard Zeebros Poliwards, Ramaniyam Eden, and TAKSRA Association for the Green Awards for the year 2018. The Hon'ble Chief Minister handed over the Awards to these apartment associations.

For successfully implementing the Government ban on use of one-time plastic products, the Hon'ble Chief Minister honoured Regional Co-ordinators, Director/ Principal Secretary of Food Safety and Drug Administration, Tmt. P.Amudha I.A.S., and Tirunelveli District Collector Tmt. Shilpa Prabakar Satish I.A.S.

2.5 kilometre long flyover in Salem Inaugurated

Hon'ble Chief Minister announces bus port on 60-acre site in the city

Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami** after declaring open the new flyover between A.V.R.Roundtana and Ramakrishna Road Junction in Salem City on 07.06.2019 *(English Translation)*.

I bow before Goddess Hon'ble Idhaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma. I offer my respectful welcome to all those who have come here to participate in this august function.

Principal Secretary of the Public Works Department, Highways and Small Ports, who welcomed the gathering at this function,

Respectful District Collector, who is to propose the vote of thanks at the end of the function,

Salem MP Thiru. S.R.Parthiban, Salem West Assembly constituency MLA Thiru. G.Venkatachalam, former Minister and Mettur MLA, Thiru. S.Semmalai, Salem South MLA, Thiru. A.B.Sakthivel, Veeerapandi MLA Tmt. P.Manonmani, Sankagiri MLA Thiru. S.Raja, Omalur MLA Thiru.S.Vetrivel, Attur MLA Thiru.R.M.Chinnathambi, Gangavelli MLA Thiru.A.Maruthamuthu, Yercaud MLA Tmt.G.Chitra, Salem North MLA Thiru.R.Rajendran, Salem District Central Co-operative Bank President Thiru.R.Elangovan, Salem District Co-operative Milk Producers Union President Thiru.V.Jayaraman, Salem District Revenue Officer, Chief Engineer of the Highways Construction and Maintenance, Superintending Engineer of the Highways Construction and Maintenance, Salem Division, Government employees, former MPs, MLAs, office-bearers of co-operative bodies, friends from visual and print media and the public. I offer my respectful morning welcome to all of you.

Roads Junction, to be constructed at a cost of Rs.441 crore. Today I am declaring open a portion of the two-tier flyover for a length of 2.5 km, which includes a 1.3 km two-way stretch and 1.2 km one-way stretch, on behalf of you all, with the blessings of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma.

Today, with the blessings of Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, a flyover at Thiruvagoundanur Roundtana, a flyover bridge from A.V.R. Roundtana to Kuranguchavadi and another flyover near Salem Steel Plant Junction have been declared open for public use. Similarly, a flyover bridge across Ellis Park in Mettur and a bridge in Appamma Samudram Narasingapuram, constructed at a cost of Rs.5.15 crore have been completed and thrown open to traffic. In Govindampalayam in Talavasal, construction work is in process for Rs.6.2 crore highway bridge across Vasishta river.

When local MLAs presented petitions requesting Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma to take steps to decongest the increasing traffic congestion in Salem City due to its growth, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma conferred on this city a feature that no other city in the State has.

When Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma was the Chief Minister of the State, she gave permission in one stroke for construction of flyovers in Salem city so that one can proudly claim that if there is construction work at all congested roads or road junctions in a city, then it must be Salem. Today, those flyover works have started. There was delay in some works mainly due to delay in acquiring the required land. Puratchi Thalaivi Amma had laid the foundation stone for a two-tier flyover on Five

To make Salem a City free of traffic congestion, steps are being taken for constructing overbridges replacing railway level crossings. These include a railway

overbridge at Manalmedu at a cost of Rs.50.15 crore and one at Mulluwadi Gate in the city at a cost of Rs.83 crore. The railway overbridge at Lee Bazar in the city at a cost of Rs.46.35 crore is getting delayed due to take over of land. Similarly work is going on for a highway bridge in Tholasampatti, on Konganapuram Narimedu Road overbridge, Jalakandapuram, Chinnappampatti, Vellalapuram, Akkaraipatti Bridge, Muthunaickenpatti High level Bridge, on the Magundanchavadi - Kumarapalayam Road, a bridge to Edappadi at the Goundanpatti Bridge and on a bridge at Erumaikaran valaivu in Taramangalam.

Similarly, on behalf of the National Highways Department, construction of a highway bridge at Magudanchavadi has started at the request of MLAs, to avert accidents and loss of lives. Work started after laying the foundation stone for a highway bridge at Ariyanur crossing at a cost of Rs.45 crore. Work started for a bridge at a cost of Rs.33 crore at Kandampatti bypass road. Similarly work for construction of high-level bridge across Vashtavathi River in Attur, Ammapalayam and Narikuravar Colony at a cost of Rs.5 crore, at a cost of Rs.3.5 crore at Puzhuthikuttai and Ayodhyapatnam Thumbal at a cost of Rs.3.50 crore have started. I am happy to inform that construction work for overbridges replacing railway level crossings will soon start at Muthunaickenpatti, Tholasampatti, Kallipatti, Vazhapadi and Omalur following representations from the public and local MLAs.

A detailed project report is being prepared for a bus port on a 60-acre site near the city to reduce traffic congestion in the city. I would like to inform you that the foundation stone will be laid for the bus port once the project report is submitted.

To create a traffic congestion-free Tamil Nadu, the Central Government has planned to widen the road from Salem to Chengampalli and preliminary works have already started. Speakers here referred to the 8-lane road. That road is an expressway. As far as the expressway is concerned, it would help easy movement of heavy traffic from Salem, Erode, Namakkal, Tiruppur and Coimbatore

Districts to Kerala. The existing National Highway roads were laid 15 to 20 years ago. Since there has been a 100 per cent increase in vehicle movement compared to year 2001, the Central Government had planned to lay modern roads of International standards. This area has lot of industries and more industries are likely to come up. That is the reason for laying this expressway. But due to some hassles, the issue is in court. The Central and the State Governments would like to convince the land owners and with their permission, the project would be implemented. Nobody should think that the project is for the individual benefit of Edappadi Palaniswami. Also, it is a Central Government project and not the State Government's Project. The State Government is not for implementing the project by causing deprivation to any one. These projects have been conceived to avert loss of human lives, to avoid accidents, to save fuel, to protect the environment and save journey time.

I am happy to inform that the Central Government has planned to upgrade various roads in Tamil Nadu as National Highways and preliminary works are likely to begin. I would like to point out that road infrastructure in Tamil Nadu is far ahead of other States. I would like to inform at this juncture, as far as Salem District is concerned, that Amma's Government is taking all possible measures for providing road and health facilities to all and create a proper environment for starting new industries to generate employment for the youth.

Already the Hon'ble Defence Minister Tmt.Nirmala Seetharaman has announced that units for making spare parts for arms and ammunitions would be set up in Salem District. Though it is a Central Government project, the State Government will expedite it so that direct and indirect employment is created for youth in the District. This Government is your Government and a people's Government which will meet all your demands. With these words, I thank you all for your participation in this function.

Nandri! Vanakkam!

Hon'ble Chief Minister declared open Rs. 1.9 crore bridge across Sarabanga

Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami** at a Government function in Edappadi Assembly constituency in Salem District on 08.06.2019 *(English Translation)*.

I bow to Hon'ble Idhaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma before beginning my address.

I extend my respectful welcome to all those who have come for this august function.

People in Goundampatti area, at the time of general elections, submitted a memorandum demanding a bridge across the Sarabanga River, linking Goundampatti with Vellandivalasu and the same was sanctioned by the Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma. The bridge was declared open during Puratchi Thalaivi Amma's time. Now I am happy to declare open one more bridge, across the Sarabanga, constructed at a cost of Rs.1.9 crore, following a demand by people in Nainampatti area. I am happy to point out that the new bridge will be beneficial to those who are visiting the Government Hospital at Nainampatti and for students going to school as it will reduce the distance by 1.5 km.

Under the Combined Water Supply Scheme, this Puratchi Thalaivi Amma's Government has been supplying protected drinking Cauvery water to 30 wards. Arulmigu Nanjundeswarar Temple has been renovated. Kalyana Mandapams are under construction

in land belonging to HR and CE near the bus stand. Steps are being taken for constructing a big market near Edappadi Municipal Office.

A park is being created for the people in this area, so that they can have relaxation in the evenings. A Government Arts and Science College with an intake of 2,000 students is functioning since Amma's time so that poor rural students of this area can get higher education. Now, a polytechnic college is to be set up in Vanavasi between Jalakandapuram and Nangavallli at a cost of Rs.58 core.

SIDCO Industrial Estate is to be set up soon. All the hospitals in this area are being renovated. More PHCs are to be opened. Veterinary hospitals have been opened. New ration shops with own buildings have been opened. Conceding the demand of milk producers, new buildings have been constructed for milk producers. New model classrooms and buildings for the same have been declared open in Vellalapuram Panchayat, Chettimakurichi Panchayat and Nangavalli Union to protect the interests of students.

At Nangavalli, for the convenience of agriculturists to store their products and to enable them to avail themselves of bank loan facilities, a new building was constructed at a cost of Rs.1.5 crore and the same has been handed over to the Agriculture Department. Like these, we have provided many facilities to the people of Edappadi on representation from the people. I would like to point out that the Government is ready to meet the new demands of the people also.

I am happy to announce that the Government would consider the people's demand for a bypass road at Jalakandapuram Panchayat to reduce traffic congestion in that area. Already a huge bypass road has come up in Edappadi town to reduce traffic bottlenecks. I thank the print and visual media for publishing and telecasting the news.

Through the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board an Electricity Division, a Highways Division and an educational District have been set up in Edappadi. Similarly, treasury wing has been opened. We have met nearly 85 per cent of the demands placed by the people. Their other demands for road facilities in certain parts of the town will also be conceded in phases.

Through this function, I am happy to declare open a new Treasury office at Edappadi at a cost of Rs.80.50 lakh, an

Adi Dravidar Welfare Students hostel at a cost of Rs. 1.14 crore on behalf of the Adi Dravidar Welfare Department, a weekly market (Rs.1 crore) at Konganapuram Panchayat on behalf of the Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department, new shade shelter on behalf of the Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department at a cost of Rs.68.06 lakh from the MLA's Constituency Development Fund, new overhead tanks, concrete roads and 4 Anganwadi buildings have been declared at a cost of Rs.34.20 lakh under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme. Totally 17 schemes worth Rs.5.88 crore, have been declared open.

Apart from these works, Combined Water Supply Scheme was inaugurated for the residents of Edappadi, Konganapuram and Magudanchavadi Panchayat during Puratchi Thalaivi Amma's rule. A few more places have now been included now and the work will begin soon. I would like to point out that the demands of the people in the panchayat for an overhead drinking water tank and new water storage tank will be considered and work will start soon.

I am happy to inform that it was the Puratchi Thalaivi Amma's Government that implemented the Nangavalli-Mecheri Combined Water Supply Scheme during Puratchi Thalaivi Amma's time itself based on the demands placed before Amma by local people and MLAs.

Similarly, this Amma's Government has been providing drinking water, roads, drainage, health facilities, veterinary hospital, good buildings for ration shops and new ration shops and basic facilities for farmers. At the same time, your new demands will also be reviewed and implemented.

At this juncture, I would like to point that Amma's Government is planning to convert the Tiruchengode-Omalur Road into 4 lane road. I am happy to declare open 17 completed works in this area with a satisfaction that most of the demands of the people have been met by the Government and I thank you all for the opportunity given to me for declaring open the welfare schemes.

Nandri! Vanakkam!

News in Picture

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** declared open through video conferencing at the Secretariat on 15.07.2019, Perunthalaivar Kamarajar Manimandapam, erected by the Perunthalaivar Kamarajar Educational and Medical Trust at Virudhunagar entrance on the Madurai-Thirunelveli National Highway. Participants in the event were Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister Thiru. O.Panneerselvam, Hon'ble Ministers Thiru. Kadambur Raju (Information and Publicity), Thiru. K.T.Rajenthra Bhalaji (Dairy Development), Thiru. K. Pandiarajan, (Tamil Official Language and Tamil Culture), MLAs, Chief Secretary to Government Thiru. K. Shanmugam I.A.S., High Officials of Government, Trustees of Perunthalaivar Kamarajar Educational and Medical Trust Thiru.R.Sarathkumar, Tmt. Radhika Sarathkumar and Selvi Varalakshmi Sarathkumar, and other trust executives.

In connection with the 117th Birth Anniversary of Perunthalaivar Kamarajar on 15.07.2019, Hon'ble Ministers Thiru. D. Jayakumar (Fisheries, Personnel and Administrative Reforms), Thiru. P. Benjamin (Rural Industries), Thiru. K. Pandiarajan (Tamil Official Language and Tamil Culture), Chairperson of the Tamil Nadu Text Book and Education Science Corporation Tmt. B.Valarmathi, Member of Legislative Assembly Thiru. S.P. Shanmuganathan, Director, Information and Public Relations Department Dr. P. Sankar I.A.S. and other Officials of Government, paid floral tributes on behalf of Tamil Nadu Government to the decorated portrait of Thiru. Kamarajar, placed near his statue on the Marina Beach, Chennai.

How Government made second GIM a success

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami's** clarification in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on 11.07.2019 over the conduct of the second Global Investors Meet. *(English Translation)*

Hon'ble Speaker Sir,

We do what we say; we are implementing even what we have not spelt out. At the second Global Investors Meet, 304 memoranda of understanding (MoU) to attract an investment of Rs.3,00,431 crore have been signed. In his speech, Hon'ble Member had said we go to Villages, meet people, the youth and all. We hold the global investors meet for bringing in brand new industries. For every one, at some point of time, a desire to start a new venture will flower. We tap that sentiment and start new industries. To say that the second meet should be held only after realizing the targets of the first meet in toto, is not practical. So, when we hold the investors meet once in two years or three years, industrialists will opt for that State which is conducive for industrial investment. As for India, industrialists have decided that Tamil Nadu is the conducive State for industrial investment and have come forward to sign 304 MoUs for investing 3,00,431 crore rupees.

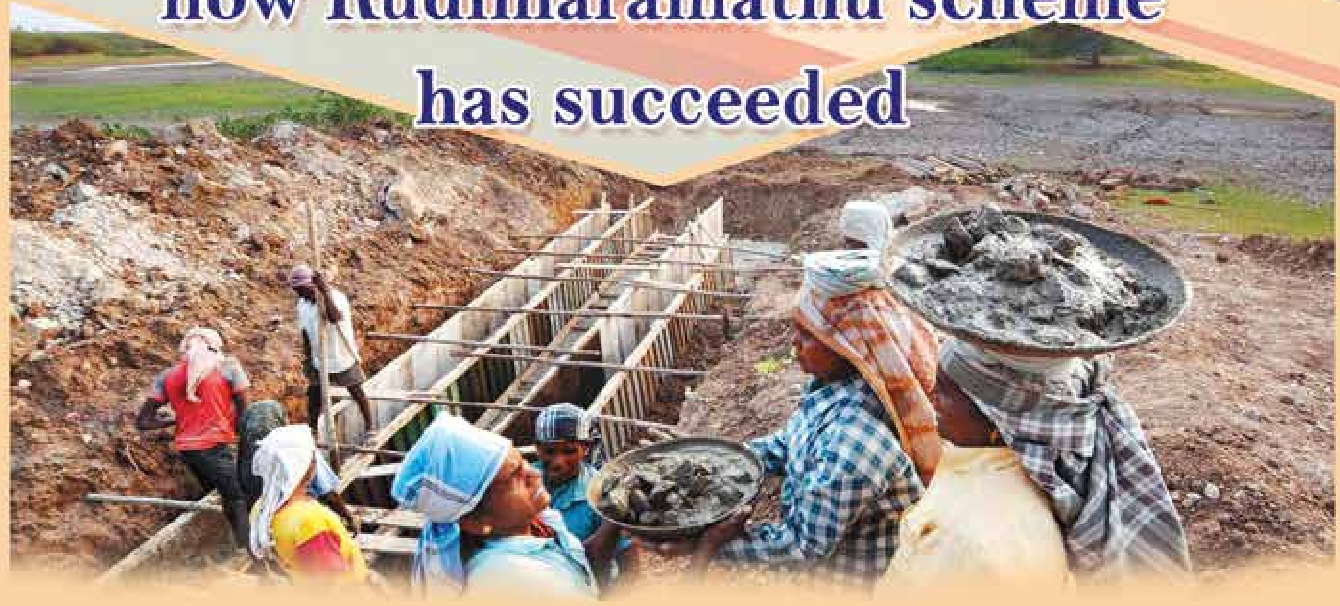
A week ago, I laid the foundation stone for many industries. As you stated, a Government must take the initiative and meet many people, both in our Country and overseas, who are

interested in industrial ventures. Our Ministers and Department Officers visited foreign countries, met industrialists and canvassed for starting industries in Tamil Nadu, offering all necessary Government assistance. That has resulted in so many investors participating in the Meet and signing 304 MoUs. Even that was derided by the Hon'ble Leader of the Opposition. I saw his comment in the newspapers - 'Every Tom, Dick and Harry going in the street was given coat and suit and made to sit in the Meet'. Industrialists who participated in the Meet, met us and regretted the comment. We are conducting Industrial Investors Meet only to bring in more capital to Tamil Nadu. The Government acts as per your wish. To create job opportunities even for rural people, new industries are started with subsidy from Government. Not only that. To encourage small industries, Our Ministers and Officers visited the Districts, talked to those interested in investing Rs.5 or 10 or 20 crore, assured them of Government help and made them sign these MoUs. They have also been included. This I wish to convey this to the Hon'ble member through you (Speaker Sir).

NEWS IN PICTURE

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami,** at the Secretariat on 22.06.2019, presided over a review meeting of the Highways and Minor Ports Department on its activities, Highways and Minor Ports Department Additional Chief Secretary (Full Additional Charge) Thiru. S.K. Prabhakar, I.A.S., Highways Department Engineers and other High Government Officials participated.

Hon'ble Chief Minister clarifies on how Kudimaramathu scheme has succeeded



Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami's** reply to the Deputy Leader of the Opposition in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on 08.07.2017, during the discussion on the demands for the Local Administration Department

(English Translation)

Hon'ble Deputy Speaker Sir,

There are over 14,000 tanks under the control of the Public Works Department. The Public Works Department and the Local Administration together have 39,000 tanks. Only if you desilt all these tanks before the onset of monsoon it is possible to conserve all the rain water. It is only towards this end that Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma's Government has introduced 'Kudimaramathu' Scheme in the State. To find out the viability of the scheme, the Government in the first phase, as an experimental measure, selected 1,519 tanks and allotted Rs.100 crore for desilting. The scheme has been introduced with the complete participation of local farmers and those who use the tanks for their irrigation. To start with, the Government launched the scheme with a small allotment of Rs.10 lakh.

As there is good response for the scheme, farmers and local people want the scheme to be expanded and demand more funds to be allotted for the scheme. They feel that the scheme would be successful and beneficial only if the entire tank is desilted by allotting sufficient funds for the scheme. On that basis, when a tank is selected for desilting under the scheme, an estimate is prepared for deepening and desilting the tank, strengthening the banks of the tank, cleaning the supply and outflow channels, repairing the sluices of the tank. Required fund has been allotted and handed over to the local irrigation farmers association, and the desilting work is going on. In 2016-2017, tanks numbering 1,519

were taken for desilting work of which work has been completed in 1,513 tanks. Desilting work could not be completed in the remaining due to some issues in the local associations.

Similarly in 2017-2018, tanks numbering 1,511 were taken up under the 'Kudimaramathu Scheme'. A sum of Rs.326 crore has been allotted. Desilting work is going on now. Already desilting work has been completed in 1,406 tanks. In the remaining tanks, the work could not be completed due to non-co-operation among the farmers. The Government is taking steps to bring these farmers together and complete the de-silting works. In the current year 2019-2020, tanks numbering 1,829 have been taken for the desilting work and Rs.489 crore has been allotted. It is difficult to take desilting works in all tanks at one go. As we don't have sufficient funds to take up all tanks, big tanks in Districts are taken first and the work is going on. An officer of IAS rank, Mr. Sankar has been appointed for supervising the scheme as supervision is essential for the success of any scheme. The Officer reviews the scheme by touring all Districts, meeting local farmers and enquiring about the benefits of the scheme. So, Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma's Government has launched the 'Kudimaramuthu Scheme' to provide sufficient water for farmers, and is implementing it successfully. The scheme is out and out a farmers' scheme which is being implemented with the full participation of farmers. Even if a tender is floated, it is not possible to implement the scheme successfully. I am happy to inform the House that this is an excellent scheme where local farmers are mobilized and tanks in their areas are handed over to them for desilting work.

Deputy Leader of the Opposition asked for the list of tanks in the State where desilting work had been taken up. Tanks throughout the State are being desilted. There is no second opinion on that. We are ready to give a clear explanation. During your regime also the Officers performed the work. The same Officers are doing the work in our regime also. The engineers, who were working during your regime, are now working in our regime also. Perhaps some engineers might have retired due to superannuation. The rest are doing the same work. Just to get the work done efficiently, the local District Collectors have been sufficiently instructed. They are asked to supervise the work directly and ensure that there is no political intervention. I would like to inform the Hon'ble Deputy Leader of the Opposition through the Hon'ble Deputy Speaker that Government had ordered that the scheme should be implemented with the full participation of the local farmers and there would be no dearth of funds as sufficient funds were being pumped in to complete the scheme. We have appointed Special Officer for the scheme. There should not be any political interference or recommendation. The scheme should be implemented with the full participation of the local farmers association. Funds will be given to the association through banks as cheques and not to any individual. The Government order is clear that registered farmers associations alone should receive the fund and the associations alone should undertake the scheme and nobody else. If you point out any mistakes, it would be immediately enquired into and those responsible for the mistakes would be taken to task, the Chief Minister added.